

Curriculum information sheet – English

Subject leader –

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Year 7 information

The syllabus in year 7 builds on the skills and knowledge taught at Key Stage 2. It develops both reading and writing skills through a wide range of texts and mediums.

Students get to study popular and well-known authors such as Roald Dahl, Michael Morpurgo and Andy Mulligan whilst also looking at writing in different forms such as poetry and non-fiction texts. Topics include Who am I, Heroes & Villains and School Days.

Year 8 information

The year 8 syllabus aims to stretch and develop students' interest in reading and writing. Students have the opportunity to study a novel by a contemporary writer such as Bali Rai, Morris Gleitzman and Benjamin Zephaniah.

Students will look at non-fiction texts, poetry and texts from other cultures. In addition to this, students study Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* to develop their knowledge and understanding of his language but also the context and themes of his plays. Other topics include Crime and Punishment and Stories from round the world.

Year 9 information

The syllabus in year 9 develops both reading and writing skills and aims to instil a love of reading by allowing the students to study a wide variety of texts.

As part of the course, students will study classics such as *Of Mice and Men*, poetry, creative writing and persuasive writing, as well as poetry and *Macbeth* in preparation for the GCSE English Literature course.

Extra-curricular

There will be opportunities for theatre trips, world book day events and competitions such as poetry. There is also a debating club for years 8-10.

What can parents do to help?

Encourage your child to read both fiction and non-fiction books. It is generally recognised that where children see parents and particularly fathers reading books they will be far more interested themselves. Share stories with them and take turns to read aloud.

Encourage them to join a local library and attend regularly with them. There are suggestions of books to read on Cloudnine.

Watch films together of books they have read and discuss whether the film helped them understand the book better and whether the characters were as they imagined.

If possible, take your child to the theatre to see a play.