



English: Curriculum Intent

Subject vision

We aim to develop a love of both language and literature whilst delivering a broad knowledge of literature in a wide range of genres, the concepts and ideas that literature explores, its reflections on the world in which we live and the language that we use to express ourselves. We are passionate about the importance of language and the creativity it brings and aim to foster this in the students we teach. We are committed to encouraging students to think critically, develop both substantive and disciplinary knowledge, and develop a life long love of reading and a desire to craft language effectively. We foster an inclusive and supportive learning environment centred on mutual respect and understanding of others, in which open-mindedness and tolerance are explicitly promoted. We intend that through exploring the importance of both literature and language in the world of both the past and the present, students will be better equipped to understand the world, society and cultures around them and their place within them; developing their skills as critical thinkers and readers, analytical and creative writers and articulate communicators.

We deliver our curriculum intent on a subject level by:

At *KS3* we develop a broad range of knowledge and experience through the study of curriculum booklets that focus on key generic elements of both literature and language. This is to ensure that the students have a broad experience of the subject and are introduced to key ideas that will be developed in *KS4* and *5*. We encourage pleasure of reading through the study of class readers and library lessons. Alongside this we ensure that students continue to develop the knowledge of language gained at *KS2* to enable them to be able to use language effectively in both creative and transactional tasks. Students enjoy lessons that include discussion to enable them to build confidence in their own ideas, focussed writing activities to allow them to focus on crafting and using language with purpose and confidence, and reading activities to expand their comprehension, analytical and evaluative skills.

At *KS4* we provide students with the opportunity to revisit and build on prior learning continuing the journey of the curriculum established in the curriculum booklets from *KS3*. Students are given the opportunity to refine their reading, writing and speaking skills. They are encouraged to develop the depth and sophistication of their responses, and challenged to explore more academic and critical readings of the texts they study. We continue to expand their linguistic knowledge and expose them to a wide variety of texts, to enable their knowledge and understanding to evolve alongside their ability to produce mature and engaging pieces of their own. We aim to expose them to a range of contemporary materials in addition to the set texts to engage them and sustain their enthusiasm for both literature and language. The areas studied at *KS4* prepare them for the study of the subject at *KS5* and equips them with the skills to be effective and articulate communicators.

At *KS5* students have the opportunity to build on prior knowledge from *KS4*, as well as being introduced to new areas of study. The areas of study enable the students to explore key ideas and continue to expand both their skills and knowledge base. We strive to build confident, independent learners through academic reading, research and

independent study. This complements the in-class teaching and support as they explore new areas, critical ideas and theories. This stage of the journey prepares them for further academic study or the work place, giving them important communication tools to support them to succeed in their future lives.

Enrichment

The English and Media Department has a strong tradition of organising extra-curricular activities including hearing visiting speakers, participating in revision conferences delivered by subject experts, and enjoying cultural excursions. Students have access to a wide range of academic reading and texts for pleasure for their study and for personal reading.

In English, students '**Achieve success**' by:

<p>Encouraging high aspiration and a love of learning</p>	<p>The learning environment is purposeful, with high quality resources. Staff are passionate about the subject and are experts in their field. They ensure that lessons are delivered confidently and that scholarship is a highly valued quality.</p> <p>Key vocabulary is integral to learning and plays a key role in regular assessments.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to strive for and exceed their target grades at all key stages.</p>
<p>Maximising progress and potential</p>	<p>Students follow a clearly progressive assessment schedule, which builds on skills and increases knowledge and encourages creativity. Skills and areas of study are carefully sequenced to provide opportunities for revisiting knowledge, and developing understanding of the links and connections between texts over time.</p> <p>High quality writing is modelled at all key stages, and students are exposed to both creative models along with academic expression and analytical writing from Year 7.</p> <p>Careers and the work of academics and writers, along with the use of language in the work place are regularly referenced.</p>
<p>Providing rewarding learning experiences</p>	<p>The department aims to understand how to create lesson experiences which foster a love of learning and a curiosity about society and culture from both the past and the present. Activities are varied, and resources are tailored to the age and ability of groups.</p> <p>Current events are regularly referenced where appropriate so that students can bring their own knowledge to the classroom. The study of language enables us to incorporate an opportunity for students to study their own language use, encouraging them to explore language in the local, national and global context. This is also</p>

	reflected in the diversity of texts explored during their lessons.
Offering diverse opportunities	<p>In class, students participate in activities which revolve around diverse skills, including reading and writing for pleasure, understanding academic reading and writing, imagination and creativity, collaborative learning and independent reflection alongside recall of key learning.</p> <p>Topic content is aimed at covering a diverse curriculum, including texts from a range of writers across the globe and the exploration of key historical moments, and key social issues linked to gender, ethnicity and social class.</p>
Recognising and celebrating all achievement	Effort is highly praised at all key stages. At all key stages students are encouraged to reflect on their achievement as much as their attainment and regular conversations about their progress are central to this.

In English, students '**Value Others**' by:

Contributing to a safe school environment	Students are welcomed into lessons and have clear boundaries and expectations for conducting themselves in the classroom.
Showing tolerance, respect and fairness	<p>Students at all key stages are exposed to a range of social issues, ideas and perspectives through their study of a range of texts, where they are supported to develop their own judgements based on informed knowledge.</p> <p>We encourage students to develop their empathetic skills to enhance their own tolerance and respect of others.</p> <p>Students are able to reflect on the diverse experiences of people throughout history and the current day, to develop an awareness of the importance of tolerance and respect.</p>
Listening to and respecting others' views	<p>Students regularly contribute to class discussion and take part in group and pair work.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to participate and the classroom is a safe space for students to share their ideas. Students are encouraged to share their ideas to develop their ability to articulate themselves and build on understanding by listening to the ideas of their peers.</p> <p>Students regularly debate and share ideas on a</p>

	<p>range of topics, some of which may be considered controversial. In these discussions students are provided with modelled language for debating sensitive issues.</p>
<p>Appreciating and embracing diversity</p>	<p>The English curriculum encourages students to engage with a range of life experiences, many of which have common areas with their own lives.</p> <p>The study of literature and language is an exploration of the human condition, and the experience they gain from the reading from a diverse range of texts enables them and encourages them to both appreciate and embrace diversity.</p>
<p>Being an active member of our school and local community</p>	<p>The English Department has a strong tradition of working with the wider community, and we regularly work with the local literature festival Weaver Words.</p>
<p>Co-operating with others</p>	<p>Students have the opportunity to participate in collaborative learning both within and beyond the classroom.</p> <p>Home Learning activities offer opportunities for wider study, and group work within the classroom is a common feature of English lessons.</p>