

English Year 8 Curriculum overview

The below is intended to provide parents and pupils with a simple overview of Year 8 English. Should you have any additional questions please do not hesitate to contact Miss Hayes. We strongly encourage parents to look through their child's books and talk with them about their studies.

Learning Focus	Assessments
Unit 1: Moral Tales Across Time	
<p><u>Learning enquiries:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the conventions of short moral stories? 2. How can narrative hooks engage readers? 3. What is characterisation and how can I develop it? 4. How can vocabulary choices and sentence structure create and influence meaning? <p><u>Key Skills:</u> Knowledge, analysis, narrative writing</p>	<p>Interim Assessment: Pupils will have one piece of narrative writing marked with specific feedback that will allow them to respond and improve a specific area.</p> <p>Final Assessment: This will test spelling, knowledge and understanding of the key concepts and narrative writing.</p>
Unit 2: Bildungsroman: Great Expectations	
<p><u>Learning enquiries:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can I use textual evidence to make precise inferences about characters? 2. How do writers create sympathy? 3. How do writers show how and why characters change? 4. How do I analyse mood and atmosphere? <p><u>Key Skills:</u> Knowledge, analysis</p>	<p>Interim Assessment: Pupils will have one piece of analytical writing marked with specific feedback that will allow them to respond and improve a specific area.</p> <p>Final Assessment: This assessment will test for spelling, knowledge and ability to analyse language.</p>
Unit 3: Rebellious Voices: Protest Poetry from the Romantic period to the modern day	
<p><u>Learning enquiries:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is context and how does it contribute to my understanding of a poem? 2. How do I effectively understand and annotate a poem? 3. How do I analyse the use of poetic techniques effectively? 4. How do I link my analysis to the overall purpose of a poem? <p><u>Key Skills:</u> Knowledge, analysis, essay writing</p>	<p>Interim Assessment: Pupils will have one piece of poetic analysis marked with specific feedback that will allow them to respond and improve a specific area.</p> <p>Final Assessment: This assessment will test for spelling, knowledge and ability to develop analysis in an essay style.</p>
Unit 4: The Monster Within: Jekyll and Hyde	
<p><u>Learning enquiries:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do writers create mystery and tension? 2. How can I evaluate presentations of a character? 3. How do writers use character to comment on human nature? 4. How do writers create dramatic endings to texts? <p><u>Key Skills:</u> Knowledge, analysis</p>	<p>Interim Assessment: Pupils will have one piece of analytical writing marked with specific feedback that will allow them to respond and improve a specific area.</p> <p>Final Assessment: This assessment will test for spelling, knowledge and ability to analyse a whole text.</p>
Unit 5: Travel Writing	
<p><u>Learning enquiries:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can I develop my active reading skills when analysing nonfiction texts? 2. How can I compare nonfiction texts? 	<p>Interim Assessment: Pupils will have one piece of analytical writing marked with specific feedback that will allow them to respond and improve a specific area.</p>

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<p>3. How can I effectively plan and write my own piece of travel writing? 4. How can I write to review?</p> <p><u>Key Skills:</u> Knowledge, analysis, comparison, transactional writing</p>	<p>Final Assessment: This assessment will test for knowledge and the ability to write a transactional text.</p>
<p>Unit 6: Understanding Tragedy: Romeo and Juliet</p>	
<p><u>Learning enquiries:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can I independently read and understand Shakespeare's writing? 2. How can I analyse the way Shakespeare uses the conventions of the tragedy genre to engage his audience? 3. How do I comment on the ways an audience might react to different parts of the play? 4. How can I write to evaluate the motivations of characters using the format of an article? <p><u>Key Skills:</u> Knowledge, analysis, evaluation</p>	<p>Interim Assessment: Pupils will have one piece of analytical writing marked with specific feedback that will allow them to respond and improve a specific area.</p> <p>Final Assessment: This assessment will test for spelling, knowledge and ability to evaluate character motivation across a whole text.</p>