



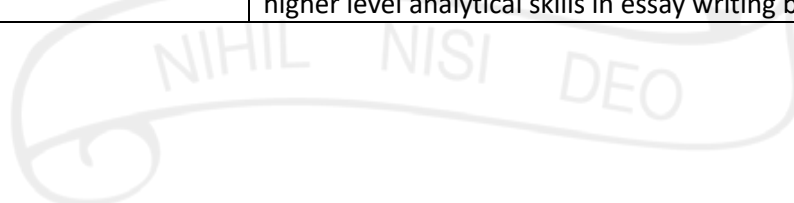
English Literature



Curriculum Overview Key Stage 3&4

KEY STAGE 3		
	Topic	Key Themes
YEAR 7	Transition from Primary	In this unit students are introduced to the core reading skills needed for KS3. They will learn four of eight new critical reading skills building on their reading for understanding (learned at primary school). The skills include inferences, evidencing, perspectives and contextual illumination. Students will apply these four skills to texts in each unit- which will always include at least one poem in conjunction with a drama or novel.
	Monster Calls	In this unit students are introduced to a novel where a monster comes looking for a boy, a social outsider, who has a lot of problems, including that his mother has cancer. Students develop their core analytical reading skills including applying inference and author method.
	Hound of the Baskervilles	Students read this book about Sherlock Holmes in order to widen their 19C knowledge of texts. They also watch a film about a more modern detective to utilise narrative techniques from both texts and understand contexts from 1890s and 1950s informing GCSE texts later. Our ghost tour trip also adds to this understanding. They develop contextual understanding and inferences.
	Noughts and Crosses	Students read this play and enjoy discussing and debating issues of race, oppression and injustice and learn about the

		historical links/context of this play (later linking to poetry at GCSE). They write analytically about the play using critical reading skills such as contextual illumination and perspectives.
	Wyrd sisters	Students gain an intro to Shakespeare's Macbeth in this funny Pratchett tale based on an alternative comic version of the play. Students develop reading skills including perspectives and the genre context. They meet the real Wyrd Sisters in Year 10 when reading Macbeth.
	The Tempest	Students engage with Shakespeare's language having read the school version of the play. This widens their literary experience and gives rise to audience appreciation. They also have an introduction to Shakespeare via a theatre company. Again, they build on reading skills including contextual illumination and evidenced character inference.
	Topic	Key Themes
YEAR 8	Of Mice and Men or Darkside	Students explore the idea of society's outsiders, the genre and concepts of alienation in either novel (all themes linking to later and earlier text studied). They will then write an essay using their analytical skills. They build on the core four used in Year 7 to extend to all eight skills – including author intention, structural analysis, reader response and connotation.
	Hunger Games	Students read part of the book in class and also in tutor times and see parts of the film. They widen understanding of Dystopic fiction (studied at GCSE).
	Romeo and Juliet	This unit gives students a chance to engage with the original play and see the interpretation in film. Students will then write analytical essays as a means of paving the way to Shakespeare studied at GCSE. They will utilise all and any of the eight critical reading skills to do this. A theatre company will also perform the play in school, and they may attend.
	Gangsta Rap	Our students love this Bildungsroman novel which tells the tale of teenagers who become famous Hip-hop stars but have to learn life lessons on the way. It widens their literary knowledge of this genre and prepares for GCSE texts.
	Frankenstein	This play based upon the book is a good way to enable students to further understand the nineteenth century context and develop their structural analysis of a text by writing an essay on character change. Again, they utilise the eight reading skills with a focus on the more complex structural analysis skill.
	Martyn Pig	Year 8 enjoy this modern piece of crime fiction that keeps you guessing right until the end. They broaden their knowledge of modern techniques and the crime genre.
	Topic	Key Themes
	Christmas Carol	This lovely novella enables students to explore more of the Capitalist 19C context feeding into GCSE. They will develop higher level analytical skills in essay writing by continuing to



YEAR 9		develop the eight key reading skills in an implicit rather than explicitly taught way. They can also see this performed by a theatre company in school.
	Gregory's' Girl	This comic visit to the 1980s widens their knowledge of Bildungsroman, drama and 1980s context.
	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time	This excellent play (which we go to see if it is touring) looks at developing student's ability to better understand vulnerable people in society as the central character is ASD. It provides food for thought and enables students to write considered essays on contemporary issues in society developing their perspective and contextual illumination skills, as well as utilising any of the others.
	Rani and Sukh	This Asian version of a well-known love story is very popular with our students. It enables us to learn about other cultures and develop our analytical skills by having to consider alternative views and perspectives within other cultures, expanding knowledge through a culturally diverse Bildungsroman text.
	The Importance of Being Earnest	This nineteenth century comedy is a fabulous treat for our year 9s. They develop the skills for English Language analysis at GCSE and the ability to write with wit and humour. Students develop an understanding of literary texts with a more complex relationship with the audience, social criticism, and more advanced author methods.
	The Bunker Diaries	This modern thriller is a fast-paced engaging read which is used to embed vital literacy skills in preparation for GCSE. Students will read a postmodern Bildungsroman which is darker and more mature to improve their wider textual knowledge and be prepared for mature GCSE texts.

KEY STAGE 4		
Examination Specification: AQA GCSE English Literature		
	Topic	Key Themes
YEAR 10	Macbeth	This is a great play that students really enjoy and study in depth at GCSE. Students will also see the play in action via a theatre company.
	Macbeth	Students develop their analytical skills in terms of character analysis, change and thematic approaches. They will write about this play in the GCSE Literature exam.
	Short fiction	Students read a range of short fiction broadening their literary knowledge of 19C and 20C Literature.
	Lord of the Flies or An Inspector Calls	This modern text is also on the exam. It enables students to think about society and the bigger picture- connecting to year 9 ideas about equity and equality. It also connects to key themes/concepts studied earlier including social

		outsiders, Dystopic and Bildungsroman novels, 20C contextual knowledge.
	Power and Conflict Poetry and Unseen poetry.	This set of war poetry is also on the exam. Students study this to write comparative essays on the poems in the GCSE exam. Students also need to write about an unseen poem in the exam and learn a method of approach.
	Jekyll and Hyde	This nineteenth century novel is a good read after the earlier 19 th century texts that students have read. Students will also write an essay on this gothic horror in the Literature Exam. This novel links to earlier concepts and themes such as the Gothic, social responsibility as well as the 19C context.
	Topic	Key Themes
YEAR 11	Language Analysis	We read some fiction and part of the play DNA (also linking to GCSE drama) to practise and sharpen key literary skills such as language analysis which is used in all the GCSE exams.
	Unseen poetry and SPL	Students study how to approach unseen poetry and use music lyrics and modern poems by exciting contemporary poets such as Shane Kozak and Prince Ea. This enables them to use familiar Literary works to practise skills that many find difficult. The texts used inspire confidence and ensure the study of poetry is relevant.
	Revision of Literature	Students complete smaller units of work revising their key texts for the Literature exam and ensure their copies of each book (which we give to them to keep) are highlighted with key quotes etc for revision. They can also attend holiday intervention for additional support as they have mock exams in March.
	Revision of key Literature	Students will study aspects of the exam that the mock exams reveal to be a weakness. This may vary from class to class. Interventions after school will also run.
	Revision of key language and literature	Students will continue to revise the topics of their choice/exam informed choices post Easter to support exam preparation. Teachers will also utilise mock data to focus on the right texts and skills for each class.
	Final Exams	Revision sessions will be arranged to support students undertaking these exams.



Extracurricular and Enrichment opportunities

Within English there are a variety of opportunities. We have showcased some of our extended learning and other independent pieces. We know that every student, regardless of circumstances, can produce truly wonderful and fantastic work. We are very proud of them. Please see the below link to see some examples of outstanding pieces of work written by students of all abilities and backgrounds.

Every student is given additional resources to supplement their learning. In addition to the extended learning projects we set, students also utilise our IT programmes of Educake (all year groups) Spag Monsters (Year 7 and 8) Literacy Planet (Year 9) and Bedrock Vocabulary and GCSE (Year 10 and 11). GCSE students are all awarded their own set of books to ensure every student has a copy of every book on the exam. Year 7 students are also all given a reading book to keep (Auggie and Me) and a CPG grammar book each and Year 11 students are also receiving GCSE Language CPG books to support their English Language GCSE.

Every student has the opportunity to enjoy some fun- filled revision and knowledge enrichment to ensure what they learn stays with them. We run a number of end of term activities in which students consolidate their learning with a variety of activities from the recreation and tableau staging of the Battle scene from Macbeth to making English themed lunch boxes in Year 7. Additional enrichment includes in house theatre productions, trips such as GCSE Poetry Live and our after-school revision competitions such as Hot Chocolate Quiz night. We ask for a voluntary contribution for some of these activities to ensure we can continue to provide the extra enrichment resources.

