

KNOWLEDGE

Our curriculum is unapologetically ambitious and unashamedly academic, it is rich in knowledge and all students are exposed to high quality literary texts from a range of authors from Chaucer to Adichie. Exposure to key writers and key concepts for GCSE set texts such as Shakespeare and Dickens are spiralled throughout the five year curriculum.

SKILLS

Students acquire quality first communication skills. Reading, writing, oracy and assessment skills are spiralled throughout the five year curriculum in English.

UNDERSTANDING

Our curriculum prepares students to become critical thinkers and effective communicators equipping them with an understanding of the human condition to navigate the world around them successfully. In addition, the curriculum inspires a life long love and appreciation of the power of literary texts.

- POST 16 PATHWAYS A LEVELS**
- LITERATURE
 - LANGUAGE
 - LAW
 - POLITICS
 - CRIMINOLOGY
 - DRAMA
 - MEDIA STUDIES
 - FILM STUDIES

REVISION AND EXAM SKILLS

Students study a range of resources to help them to refine their informed critical responses to literary texts and the way writers present their ideas. The revision unit enables students to make links between a variety of written texts and the contexts which have shaped them.

POWER AND CONFLICT

Through a range of extracts of fiction, non-fiction and poetry students explore the central power and conflicts of the human condition. What gives some power over others? What causes conflict?

THE POWER TO CHANGE

Students study a range of fiction and non-fiction texts that explore mental health and resilience. The unit explores the power within ourselves to change and define our identity. Students revise the key skills needed for the Language examination. Students revise key literature texts for the examination – *Macbeth*, *A Christmas Carol* and *An Inspector Calls*.



THE SUPERNATURAL

'The Supernatural' combines ghost stories, fairy tales, myths and legends from the ancient world alongside contemporary urban legends. We ask how a writer can compel, frighten and speculate. We explore the context of Victorian literature and discover the fascinations of Dickens' reading public. Core Text *A Christmas Carol*.

THE POWER OF NATURE

Students study a range of poems, prose extracts and non-fiction writing which explore the powerful forces of mother nature and the insignificance of human beings in the face of nature's power. Core text *Macbeth*.

THE SOCIAL CONDITION

Students learn how authors present social issues. We then explore this theme in the context of *An Inspector Calls* and *A Christmas Carol*, looking at how these writers depict our attempt to live in challenging and difficult circumstances. Students also study a range of poems, prose extracts and non-fiction writing which explore human beings search for identity.

POWER AND PRIVILEGE

"All power corrupts. Absolute power corrupts absolutely" Students study a range of fiction and non-fiction texts to explore the impact of use and abuse of power and privilege. Students read literature from different cultures and traditions, as well as prose that explores life on the 'outside' of power and privilege. We end Year 9 with an exploration of how humans respond to war.

SUBVERSION AND REBELLION

We continue Year 9 reading George Orwell's classic *Animal Farm* and learn how a range of authors use stories to explore subversion and rebellion in society. Students study the importance of the context of the text and how readers respond to texts in different ways.

VISIONARIES

Visionaries investigates 'People with Big Ideas', considering how language can be used powerfully in both the spoken and written form to convey thoughts and generate change, as well as reading the work of the Romantic Poets. Students study the power of rhetoric and produce their own speech.



STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL

We begin Year 8 with reading John Steinbeck's classic *Of Mice and Men* and learning how the author presents marginalised people and their 'Struggle for Survival'. We then explore this theme in the context of the wilderness, looking at how writers depict our attempt to live in hostile and difficult environments.

BELONGING

Students continue their Year 8 journey by reading literature that explores life on the 'outside' of power and privilege. A study of those who do not belong and how society treats the outsider. Students study a range of texts that explore the human need to "Belong." The unit explores the role of the story in how we reflect on our life experiences and define our identity

WRITERS' WORLDS

An introduction to the Bard's brilliance through an exploration of Shakespeare's characterisation and social commentary. Students explore Shakespeare's critical understanding of the human condition. Following this students delve into Dickens and an introduction to Victorian context. Writer's worlds culminates with an exploration of diverse voices in texts from other cultures.

EXPLORING NARRATIVE

Students investigate the role and impact of the unreliable narrator in a range of literature and non-fiction texts including poetry, prose and media texts. Students explore the role of narrative voice in their own creative texts.

EXPLORING GENRE

Students study a range of genres including the codes and conventions of the detective genre exploring our fascination with crime and solving the mystery. We also explore Gothic fiction, which reached the height of its popularity in the late 18th to mid-19th centuries.

TELLING TALES

Students study a range of mentor texts as they move through their "Telling Tales" journey. We study extracts, short stories and poems. We investigate the origins of language and literature studying myth, fairy tales and writers ranging from the classics Chaucer, Shakespeare and Dickens to more contemporary writers.



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SKILLS

UNDERSTANDING



