



Year 7 Curriculum Intent

In Year 7, the English curriculum explores the themes of creation and community. In Term 1, students read *Beowulf*, exploring themes of responsibility and community; in Term 2, students read *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, exploring our self-determination as individuals within societal norms and the law; in Term 3, students study Poetry of Creation, exploring texts that affirm the preciousness of our lives through poems such as Plath's *You're* and our relationship with the natural world through poems such as Imtiaz Dharker's *Blessings*.

Every term, students study a language skill: students are inspired to embrace their imaginative capacity through the Original Writing Unit and to see how transactional writing can be a powerful vehicle for their views and ideas. During these units, students continue to develop the accuracy of their writing, SPAG, and their spoken expression.

Year 7 Curriculum Overview

Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4	Topic 5	Topic 6
Original Writing	Beowulf	Poetry of Creation	Speech Writing & Oracy	A Midsummer Night's Dream	Letter Writing
Key Question					
How can we use our imagination to write creatively?	How is virtue shown to be the basis of a fulfilling life?	How do we experience nature and co-exist with creation?	How can we use speech to express our ideas and feelings?	How is love shown to be a powerful influence on action?	How can we use letter writing to be informative and persuasive?
Key Vocabulary					
1. Antagonist 2. Description 3. Dystopia 4. Fantasy 5. Fiction 6. Genre 7. Historical fiction 8. Narrator 9. Protagonist 10. War Literature	1. Compassion 2. Epic 3. Genocide 4. Heroism 5. Honour 6. Humility 7. Justice 8. Monstrosity 9. Revenge 10. Sacrifice	1. Abundance 2. Awesomeness 3. Blessing 4. Dominance 5. Identity 6. Inspiration 7. Isolation 8. Migration 9. Oppression 10. Omnipotence	1. Argument 2. Audience 3. Bias 4. Cause 5. Emotive 6. Ethos 7. Factual 8. Logos 9. Orator 10. Pathos	1. Chaos 2. Devotion 3. Egotistical 4. Irrational 5. Obedience 6. Objectification 7. Patriarchal 8. Transgression 9. Unrequited 10. Vindictive	1. Counterpoint 2. Emotive 3. Evidenced 4. Faithfully 5. Formality 6. Instruct 7. Persuade 8. Recipient 9. Salutation 10. Sincerely

	The knowledge you will need to recall:	How you will apply this knowledge:	This links to:
1	Original Writing Unit - The nature of fiction and conventions of a range of core genres. - First persona and third person narrative stance. - Typical characteristics of the protagonist and antagonist. - Creating character through portraiture writing. - Descriptive approaches to setting, such as pathetic fallacy. - A range of linguistic techniques used to write evocatively. - Employment of a range of sentence types and structures.	Original Writing Unit - Considering the purpose of fiction and exploring writer's intentions. - Writing in the style different genres, such as fantasy and dystopia. - Exploring the impact of narrative stance and transforming stance. - Creating a character portrait based on someone you know. - Employing sensory details and figurative language in your writing. - Utilising key vocabulary to write evocatively and powerfully. - Utilising and re-drafting work to achieve accuracy and effects.	KS3: Students study texts across genres, such as satire, fables and allegories with <i>Animal Farm</i> (Y8), and adventure mystery with <i>Trash</i> (Y9). Students continue to develop original writing each year at KS3. KS4: Students study across genres, and apply their knowledge of descriptive writing on English Language Paper 1, Section B.
2	Beowulf Unit - Transformable nature of texts, from oral to written/transcribed. - The nature of the epic genre and traits of the epic hero. - Significance of context and setting. - Treatment of themes such as identity and good & evil. - Aspects of character such as heroism, villainy and monstrosity.	Beowulf Unit - Considering the purpose of story-telling, learning about scops and gleemen. - Analysing the epic genre and Beowulf's characterisation & plot arc. - Writing descriptively to capture a sense of Hrothgar's community values. - Thinking and writing analytical about themes, structure and character. - Employing the <i>What, How, Why</i> analytical writing frame.	KS3: Students explore transformation of texts through <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> (Y7) and speech writing. Students build understanding of characterisation in texts such as <i>Animal Farm</i> (Y8) and <i>The Merchant of Venice</i>. (Y8). KS4: Students will be able to apply learning related to character types to <i>Macbeth</i>, <i>A Christmas Carol</i> and to Language P1, Section A.
3	Poetry of Creation - The conventions of poetic forms, such as ballads and sonnets. - A range of structural methods used by poets to create effect. - Different forms of rhythm and rhyme, both regular and irregular. - Typical figurative language features of poetry. - How to write analytically, utilising <i>What, How, Why</i>.	- Annotating and analysing a range of poems of regular and irregular forms. - Analysing structural features such as caesura, enjambement and end-stop lines. - Analysing iambic pentameter, rhyming couplets and alternate rhyme. - Analysing writers' use of figurative methods, including simile and metaphor. - Responding to analytical questions, using the <i>What, How, Why</i> frame.	KS3: Students build appreciation of poetry every year by studying increasingly challenging poems, such as <i>The Tyger</i> (Y8) and <i>Thirteen</i> (Y9). KS4: In Literature, students study AQA's <i>Power and Conflict Anthology</i>, and a range of poems, preparing for the Unseen Poetry section.
4	Speech Writing & Oracy - Significance of speeches in history, society and activism. - Meaning of terms such as orator, rhetoric, logos, ethos & pathos. - Conventional features of powerful speech delivery. - Understanding of how purpose and audience affect speech writing. - Conventions of speeches, such as rhetorical & linguistic methods. - Structuring a speech, applying DROP, ZOOM, SHIFT, ECHO.	- Annotating and analysing speeches, such as <i>Nature is Speaking</i>. - Identifying how audience and purpose inform content, tone and language. - Listening to, analysing and delivering speeches to develop oracy skills. - Identifying and using rhetorical methods, including forms of repetition. - Crafting a speech, using the DROP, ZOOM, SHIFT, ECHO frame.	KS3: Students build speech writing and oracy skills in units like <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> (Y8) KS4: In Literature, students study speeches across texts such as <i>My Last Duchess</i> and <i>Macbeth</i>. In Language, students write and deliver a speech for their Spoken Language Endorsement.
5	A Midsummer Night's Dream - Time, life and works of William Shakespeare. - Introduction to Elizabethan theatre and The Globe theatre. - Conventions of comedy, such as theme, plot and character type. - Skills in reading Shakespeare and considering audience response. - Playwright's use of staging, prop, action and language technique. - How to write analytically, utilising <i>What, How, Why</i>.	- Considering content in relation to social values and the theatre. - Show understanding of comedy through exploring theme, plot and character. - Reading for meaning and aloud, developing fluency, pace, tone, and volume. - Exploring contemporaneous and modern audience responses to the play. - Responding to analytical questions, using the <i>What, How, Why</i> frame.	KS3: Students read <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> (Y8), building understanding of tragi-comedy, before studying tragedy in <i>Journey's End</i> (Y9). KS4: In Literature, students study <i>An Inspector Calls</i> and <i>Macbeth</i>. In Language, students use oracy skills to deliver a speech for their Spoken Language Endorsement.
6	Letter Writing - Significance of letters in history, society and activism. - Meaning of terms such as recipient and salutation. - Conventions of letters, including layout, first person, direct address. - Understanding of how purpose and audience affect letter writing. - Structuring a letter, applying DROP, ZOOM, SHIFT, ECHO. - Employment of a range of sentence types and structures.	- Annotating and analysing letters, such as Ghandi's open letter to Hitler. - Identifying how audience and purpose inform content, tone and language. - Identifying and using rhetorical methods, including sentence functions. - Crafting a letter, using the DROP, ZOOM, SHIFT, ECHO frame. - Utilising and re-drafting work to achieve accuracy and effects.	KS3: Students revisit letter writing alongside <i>Journey's End</i> (Y9) and rhetoric methods in all transactional writing units. KS4: In Language students develop and apply letter writing skills for Paper 2, Section B.



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Key Question	How can we use imagination to write creatively?	How is virtue shown to be the basis of a fulfilling life?	How do we experience nature and co-exist with creation?	How can we use speech to express our ideas and feelings?	How is love shown to be a powerful influence on action	How can we use letter writing to be informative and persuasive?
Spell It	HW 1 Spell 20: 10 Key Words & 10 Terms	Spell 20: 10 Key Words & 10 Terms	Spell 20: 10 Key Words & 10 Terms	Multiple Choice Quiz: Topics 1-4	Spell 20: 10 Key Words & 10 Terms	Grammar: Complex Sentences & Commas
	HW 2 Writing Task: Setting & Sensory Detail	Multiple Choice Quiz: Beowulf	Annotate Poetry: Form & Structure	Spell 20: 10 Key Words & 10 Terms	Grammar: Compound Sentences & Conjunctions	Multiple Choice Quiz: Y7 SPaG So Far
Review it	HW 3 Grammar: Word Classes & Suffixes	Context: The Nowell Codex	Create Poetry: Write a Shape Poem	Comprehension: Reading Speech	Exam Revision: Original Writing	Spell 20: 10 Key Words & 10 Terms
	HW 4 Writing Task: Portraiture Writing	Grammar: Nouns & Capital Letters	Multiple Choice Quiz: Poetry	Grammar: Sentence Type and Components	Exam Revision: 'Beowulf' Analysis	Writing Task: A Letter to . .
Apply it	HW 5 Multiple Choice Quiz: Original Writing	Writing Task: The Fantasy Genre	Punctuation: Sentence functions.	Research Task Who is Shakespeare?	Exam Revision: 'Beowulf' Analysis	MCQ: End of Year
	HW 6 Writing Task: Narrative Stance	Analysis Writing: What, How, Why	Analysis Writing: What, How, Why	Grammar: Simple Sentences & Splicing	Thematic Focus: 7 Types of Love	Grammar: Root words, prefixes and Suffixes
Beyond the curriculum	Explore the Library: <i>The Maze Runner</i> by James Dashner	Explore the Library: <i>The Lost World</i> by Arthur Conan Doyle	Explore the Library: <i>The Silk Roads (Non-Fiction)</i> by Peter Frankopan	Explore the Library: <i>I am Malala</i> by Malala Yousafzai	Explore the Library: <i>The Percy Jackson Series</i> by Rick Riordan	Explore the Library: <i>Private Peaceful</i> by Michael Morpurgo