

HONLEY HIGH SCHOOL

CURRICULUM GUIDE 2023-2024

English

Oh!, the places you'll go

NEVER
STOP
READING

WOW!



ENGLISH

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NEVER
STOP
READING



STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST





English Year 7

AUTUMN 1

The Night Diary.

A new novel for Year 7, set in India at the time of partition in the 1940s. We look at themes of prejudice, belonging, family and relationships. The focus in this half-term is on reading – following the story, finding information, using inference, and beginning to identify writer’s methods. We also look at non-fiction texts and poetry that is thematically linked to the novel.

Prior Learning

Tracking themes and ideas through the novel. Developing inference and analysis, supporting opinions with evidence from the text. Linking development of ideas through a whole text (Ks2)

AUTUMN 2

The Night Diary.

We continue to study the novel ‘The Night Diary ‘ and link it again to non-fiction and poetry texts. The focus in this half-term is on writing – we will explore writing in different forms, and from different viewpoints. We will also revise some elements of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Prior Learning

From Key Stage 2: awareness of poetic form/different types of poetry. Using inference skills to suggest meaning (from Autumn 1)

SPRING 1

Shakespearean Comedy – A Midsummer Night’s Dream

- Recapping Shakespeare’s world and context. What is a Shakespearean comedy? Getting used to Shakespearean language. Understanding the plot and how the characters connect to each other
- Close analysis of extracts from the play. How do we annotate extracts? How to zoom in and analyse quotations in detail
- Linking quotations to key themes and characters
- Using appropriate vocabulary choices, and varying sentence structure
- Linking a whole text together – how to make links between each paragraph
- This unit will end with a reading assessment.

Prior Learning

Revisiting descriptive writing from KS2. Grammatical links to Key Stage Two: sentence structure and accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar. Supported analysis of language, revisiting skills from Autumn term

SPRING 2

Shakespearean Comedy – A Midsummer Night’s Dream.

- Recapping Shakespeare’s world and context. What is a Shakespearean comedy? How does Shakespeare develop plot, setting and character? Deepening our understanding of Shakespeare’s language. Reading skills – what can we understand from text extracts?
- Selecting relevant quotations
- Linked thematic writing – using appropriate vocabulary, crafting sentence structures and working on how to make a well-structured text
- This unit will end with a writing assessment

Prior Learning

Encountering unfamiliar language – reading strategies. Whole text coherence: Spring 1

SUMMER 1

Inclusion and Diversity. Short Stories – Reading Skills.

Students will explore a variety of texts that focus on the topics of gender stereotypes and inclusion. Students will look at this issue in different contexts and discuss and write analytical texts expressing their viewpoints. This unit will end with a reading assessment.

Prior Learning

Revisiting themes and ideas from unit 1: the Night Diary.

SUMMER 2

Inclusion and Diversity. Short Stories – Writing Skills.

Following on from the work of Summer Term 1, students will use examples of the writer’s craft to create their own piece of transactional writing, a speech. They will look at how influential speakers use language to persuade, argue, inform and entertain. They will then use these ideas in their own speeches.

Prior Learning

Knowledge of persuasive devices. Thematic links to Summer 1.

CAREERS LINKS

Author, nurse, teacher, presenter, politician, public speaker, editor, screen writer, lawyer, university lecturer, journalist, broadcaster

CHARACTER LINKS

Moral character (using traits of compassion, courage, honesty, respect when exploring issues such as grief and isolation). Civic virtues (citizenship, community when considering poetic forms linked to different cultures and historic traditions). Intellectual virtues (critical thinking, reasoning, reflection). Performance virtues (confidence, resilience)

KEY ASSESSMENT DATES

All units of work in Key Stage Three will have short assessments mid-unit and an end-of-unit assessment testing reading or writing skills.

NITIMUR IN EXCELSIS – STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST



English Year 8

AUTUMN 1

Animal Farm– Class Novel

- Exploring the allegory of the story and the political background to the Russian Revolution. Finding out about the writer. Understanding persuasive language and methods
- Studying Orwell’s use of persuasive language in speeches by the characters. Learning about effective rhetoric – creating and presenting a speech from the viewpoint of one of the characters in the novel
- Focusing on short extracts from the text and analysing the writer’s craft – what, how and why?

Prior Learning

Revisiting persuasive language from Key Stage Two.
Analysis of extracts from Year 7 schemes.

AUTUMN 2

Dystopian Literature

- What is a utopia and what is a dystopia? Analysis of how dystopian ideas are presented through text extracts: 1984, Fahrenheit 451, The Bees
- How do we start to analyse unfamiliar texts? Looking at a language question: How does the writer use language to...
- Writing the opening of a dystopian narrative. How can we use sentence structures and vocabulary to create a dystopian mood and atmosphere, as well as engaging our reader?

Prior Learning

Analysis of unseen texts: Year 7.
Revision of language techniques and terminology from Key Stage Two and Year 7 prose studies.
Revision of sentence structures and vocabulary.

SPRING 1

Shakespearean Tragedy – Romeo & Juliet

- Understanding Shakespearean genres: what makes a tragedy? The role of fate and destiny. What is the Prologue for? Who are the Montagues and Capulets and why are they feuding? The theme of love: how is it different from today’s world for these characters?
- Understanding Shakespeare’s language: grammatical differences, obsolete vocabulary, and figurative language. Exploring key scenes in detail using new knowledge
- Understanding Shakespeare’s characters: the role of the father in Shakespeare’s time, and in modern times. How was marriage different then? Writing a speech from a character’s point of view: How do we construct effective arguments? The art of rhetoric

Prior Learning

Looking at key images or ideas in key scenes, revisiting skills from Year 7 Shakespeare unit.
Linking back to speech skills in Year 8 Animal Farm unit.

SPRING 2

Classics

- Introducing some well-known and less well-known texts from Classic Literature. Becoming familiar with character and plot, and how the stories have moral messages. Introduction to more ambitious vocabulary and grammatical structures to improve their writing.

Prior Learning

Narrative structures.
Cultural capital/context.

SUMMER 1

Gothic Literature

- Exploring the genre of Gothic Literature from early examples to modern interpretations: what makes a text Gothic? How do writers use plot, setting and character to create a Gothic text?
- Building on knowledge acquired through the unit and using this to create descriptive and narrative writing in the Gothic genre
- In addition to the variety of text extracts studied, this year we will be investigating in more detail one of the most famous and enduring Gothic texts – Frankenstein

Prior Learning

Developing understanding of narrative types, building on dystopian fiction. Awareness of historical context.

SUMMER 2

Poetry

- A collection of poems on the theme of childhood, developing knowledge of poetic conventions and poetry from different ages and genres. Developing our understanding of poetic form

Prior Learning

Building on the skills from the Poetry unit in Year 7.

CAREERS LINKS

Author, nurse, teacher, presenter, politician, public speaker, editor, screen writer, lawyer, university lecturer, journalist, broadcaster

CHARACTER LINKS

Moral character (using traits of compassion, courage, honesty, respect when exploring issues such as grief and isolation). Civic virtues (citizenship, community when considering poetic forms linked to different cultures and historic traditions). Intellectual virtues (critical thinking, reasoning, reflection). Performance virtues (confidence, resilience)

KEY ASSESSMENT DATES

Each half-termly unit of work will include 2 short assessments to measure progress, and an end-of-unit assessment that will be marked numerically. In Summer Term 2, there will be an end-of-year assessment that revisit knowledge and skills from texts taught earlier in the year.

NITIMUR IN EXCELSIS – STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST



English Year 9

AUTUMN 1

Blood Brothers -Class Play

A detailed exploration of the key themes and ideas in the play, giving our opinions about characters and their actions. Exploring the ways/methods that the writer Willy Russell presents his ideas. How does a writer's own context impact on our understanding.

Prior Learning

Ideas about characters, covered in all texts from Year 7 onwards. Using a range of reading strategies to interpret meaning.

AUTUMN 2

Voices from other places

- Introducing the idea of culture and what defines a culture. Poems from a number of different voices around the world
- Looking at what, how and why of poetry. Looking beyond the story to the writer's craft – how do writers convey their message? What is their message?
- How do we compare poems? Building the skills for GCSE English Literature

Prior Learning

Poetic terminology in Year 7 and Year 8. Developing sophistication in using poetic terminology and recognising writer's craft.

SPRING 1

Shakespeare – Macbeth

- Reminding ourselves of Shakespeare's world. Exploring the context of the play, and the beliefs of the time
- Focusing on Macbeth, Lady Macbeth and the supernatural. The terrible act of regicide
- Zooming in on extracts from the text and saying a lot about a little

Prior Learning

Shakespeare's world: Year 7
The genre of Shakespearean tragedy: Year 8.
Using evidence from the text to support our opinions – embedded in every unit we study.

SPRING 2

Shakespeare – Macbeth

- Tracking a character through the text – how do characters change and develop?
- Crafting our writing - using evidence and opinions to inform our argument. Questioning sources and counterarguments
- Examining Macbeth as a tragic hero. The Shakespearean world view – the natural order and the 'Great Chain of Being'

Prior Learning

Revisiting writing skills previously covered in Year 8. Aiming for accuracy.
How to read Shakespeare – practised in Years 7 and 8.

SUMMER 1

Narrative Writing.

Can you write a good story (at GCSE level this is called Narrative Writing). In this half-term we will look at how to structure a narrative to engage the reader and hold their attention. We will look at creating interesting characters and settings. However, a good narrative also needs to be accurate, so we will revisit SPAG skills. All of this will prepare you for the writing you will do in GCSE English Language.

Prior Learning.

SPAG skills: punctuation, paragraphs, spelling, and sentence structures.

SUMMER 2

The Curious Incident of the Dog In the Night-time

Reading this innovative novel by Mark Haddon. We will study the narrative structure and the unique voice of the protagonist, Christopher. We will learn about the wider context of the topic of autism. We will track the development of characters and relationships and look at extracts from the stage production.

Prior Learning

Understanding narrative voices and narrative structure, based on previous examples. Reading skills of inference, deduction and analysis.

CAREERS LINKS

Author, nurse, teacher, presenter, politician, public speaker, editor, screen writer, lawyer, university lecturer, journalist, broadcaster

CHARACTER LINKS

Moral character (using traits of compassion, courage, honesty, respect when exploring issues such as grief and isolation). Civic virtues (citizenship, community when considering poetic forms linked to different cultures and historic traditions). Intellectual virtues (critical thinking, reasoning, reflection). Performance virtues (confidence, resilience)

KEY ASSESSMENT DATES

Two to three assessed pieces per topic
End of Year summative assessment bringing together skills from across the academic year

NITIMUR IN EXCELSIS – STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST



English Year 10

AUTUMN 1

English Literature. Macbeth, and Eduqas Poetry Anthology.

Students begin the year with a full, 'cold' read of the play 'Macbeth', and then study poems from the Eduqas English Literature anthology that are thematically linked to the Shakespeare text.

Prior Learning: Shakespearean language and the theory of tragedy. How character is presented/developed. Knowledge of poetic form and language techniques.

CAREERS LINKS

Author, nurse, teacher, presenter, politician, public speaker, editor, screen writer, lawyer, university lecturer, journalist, broadcaster

AUTUMN 2

English Literature Macbeth
Students complete their study of 'Macbeth'.

English Literature: A Christmas Carol
Students begin their study of the text, focusing on a 'cold read' and an in-depth study of Staves 1-3.

Prior Learning
All the reading skills that students have built up over Key Stage Three will be put to great use here.

CHARACTER LINKS

Moral character (using traits of compassion, courage, honesty, respect when exploring issues such as grief and isolation). Civic virtues (citizenship, community when considering poetic forms linked to different cultures and historic traditions). Intellectual virtues (critical thinking, reasoning, reflection). Performance virtues (confidence, resilience)

SPRING 1

English Literature: A Christmas Carol and linked Anthology poems
Developing more detailed knowledge of the text and key moments in it. They then study further anthology poems that are thematically linked to the novella.

English Literature: An Inspector Calls.
Introducing the play in its context. Cold reading of the play and discussion of plot and characters.

Prior Learning
Use of quotations to support character development. Contest: 19th century history and Dickens in particular.

SPRING 2

English Literature: An Inspector Calls. Anthology poems.
Continuing study of the play, and its characters, themes and relationships. Study of poems from the anthology that are thematically linked to the text.

English Literature: An Inspector Calls. Anthology poems.
Continuing study of the play, and its characters, themes and relationships. Study of poems from the anthology that are thematically linked to the text

Prior Learning
Study of drama in Year 8 and 9. Previous text study earlier in Year 10. Narrative writing from Year 9.

KEY ASSESSMENT DATES

Students will complete classroom based-assessment tasks during each unit of study throughout Year 10, preparing them for GCSE mock examinations in English Language Paper One and English Literature Paper One in July

SUMMER 1

English Language Eduqas Component One.
Students are introduced to the English Language examination and the requirements of the reading and writing sections, with opportunities to practise the skills acquired.

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Students are introduced to the English Language examination and the requirements of the reading and writing sections, with opportunities to practise the skills acquired.

Prior Learning
Deep reading skills, covered in all text study in Y10 so far. Further practise in crafting writing for structure and accuracy.

SUMMER 2

English Literature Component One.
Revisiting the texts studied earlier in the year to test knowledge recall and practise examination questions.

English Language: Component One skills
Revising reading and writing skills and practising exam questions.

English Language Speaking and Listening
The final part of the Summer Term will be spent preparing students for the Spoken Language element of GCSE English Language. Students will prepare and plan a speech.

Prior Learning
All the study in Year 10 so far, leading up to this end-of-year assessment period. Mock exams will take place in Summer Term 2.

NITIMUR IN EXCELSIS – STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST



English Year 11

AUTUMN 1

English Language Component One Narrative Writing. An Inspector Calls. English Language Speaking and Listening. Unseen Poetry.
 Students will re-visit the narrative that they wrote in the Year 10 summer examinations, acting on feedback. They will then go on to deepen their understanding of 'An Inspector Calls', re-visiting plot, characters and themes in more detail. They will then go on to record the speech they planned in Year 10 for English Language Speaking and Listening. Next, they will study further poems from the poetry anthology, introducing the strategies for study of Unseen Poetry.

Prior Learning
 Narrative writing: Year 10.
 'An Inspector Calls': Year 10.
 Speaking and Listening: Year 10.

CAREERS LINKS

Author, nurse, teacher, presenter, politician, public speaker, editor, screen writer, lawyer, university lecturer, journalist, broadcaster

AUTUMN 2

English Language Component Two.
 Students will be introduced to the second English Language paper, gaining knowledge of the reading and writing sections and practising examination questions.

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 Students will be introduced to the second English Language paper, gaining knowledge of the reading and writing sections and practising examination questions.

Prior Learning
 Non-fiction texts studied as additional texts throughout Key Stage Three.

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SPRING 1

English Literature: Macbeth.
 Revisiting the text, with a focus on Act Three to the end of the play. Anthology poems linked thematically to the play.

English Language Components One and Two.
 Literature Revision of 'A Christmas Carol' and 'An Inspector Calls.'

Prior Learning
 Prior study of text in Year 10.

SPRING 2

English Language Components One and Two: revision and practice.
'An Inspector Calls' and 'A Christmas Carol' revision and practice.

Prior Learning
 Revision of the main English Language question types and formats. Focused knowledge recall tasks and practice of examination type questions for English Language and Literature.

KEY ASSESSMENT DATES

Assessments throughout the course:
 October 2023
 December 2023
 March 2024

SUMMER 1

Revision of all English Language and English Literature components in preparation for final examinations.

Prior Learning
 Revision of all texts/writing formats and reading skills taught on the course.

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