

Key Stage 3 English: Literature and Writing



The English language has produced beautiful and inspiring pieces of children's literature which are the envy of nations around the world. We will be dipping into iconic and timeless creations covering prose, drama and poetry, exploring the building blocks of narrative, verse and dramatization.

Topics to be covered:

Character types and characterisation

Setting

Atmosphere

Narrative Voice

Structure (openings, endings, climax, twists, flashbacks, story mountain etc)

Plot structure

Authorial message and intention

The role of the social and historical context

Poetic Devices

Meter and Verse

Students will be encouraged to think critically and to engage with the texts both analytically through essay writing and imaginatively through creative writing. We will be taking an extract-based approach to the text, reading key scenes from a range of genres which will provide breadth to the studies and a range of examples to work from and to function as models for creative writing. This will hopefully give students a good overview of some of the classics of English literature.

Learning Objectives:

Students will develop an appreciation and love of reading. They will read increasingly challenging material independently.

Students will understand increasingly challenging texts through:

- learning new vocabulary, relating it explicitly to known vocabulary and understanding it with the help of context and dictionaries
- making inferences and referring to evidence in the text
- knowing the purpose, audience form and context of the writing and drawing on this knowledge to support comprehension
- checking their understanding to make sure that what they have read makes sense.
- read critically and knowing how language, including figurative language, vocabulary choice, grammar, text structure and organisational features affect meaning
- recognising a range of literary conventions and understanding how these have been used
- studying setting, plot, and characterisation, and the effects of these
- gain some understanding of how the social and historical context can affect the creation and interpretation of a text.

Students will learn to develop a range of writing skills by:

- adapting their writing to address form, audience and purpose
- paragraphing and considering the crafting of whole text structure to create effects
- developing compelling ideas and writing in a fluent and interesting way
- selecting vocabulary and literary devices thoughtfully for effect
- using a range of sentence types, crafted carefully for effect
- using a range of punctuation, including colons, semi-colons and speech marks
- using spelling which is accurate
- using vocabulary which is ambitious and accurate

Class Details

Classes will be on Mondays at 5:00pm using zoom and an interactive whiteboard (conceptboard). Classes are recorded and saved on the classroom management system (Google Classroom). There are weekly homework tasks which are regularly marked with detailed feedback. Each session costs £8 and payments are made a month in advance.

There is a 20% discount for each sibling who attends this course or the 'GCSE English Language Examination Skills' course.

Term Dates - 2023- 2024

Autumn Term starts: 11th September, 2022

Autumn Term Half Term: 23th-27th October

Autumn Term ends: 22nd December, 2022

Spring Term starts: 8th January, 2023

Spring Term Half Term: 19th-23rd February

Spring Term ends: 28th March, 2023

Summer Term starts: 12th April, 2023

Summer Half Term: 27th-31st May

Summer Term ends: 19th July, 2023

Units for 2023-2024

Introduction to Fairy Tales and Story Structures (creative writing)

Just William (humorous short story reading comprehension and creative writing)

A Christmas Carol (reading comprehension – 19th century prose)

Shakespeare – Henry V (reading comprehension and creative writing)

Poetry from Different Cultures (reading comprehension)

At the end of each unit there will be a graded, end-of-unit assessment.