

Curriculum Plan

KS3 – English

Year 8

Golden Threads

- Increasing reading confidence in engaging with a diverse range of texts from different periods, genres and viewpoints.
- Developing analysis of how writers craft texts for meaning in poetry, prose, drama and non-fiction texts; making more developed and explicit comparisons between texts.
- Introducing how social, historical and cultural contexts affect the production and reception of texts.
- Using style models from the literary canon to craft genre writing.
- Developing further literacy skills, learning how to apply them more deliberately for effect.

Enrichment

- Students are invited to attend newspaper club.
- A timetabled monthly library lesson to encourage independent reading.
- Visit from a published poet or author.

Review and Evaluation

End of school year 2024

Topics & Substantive Knowledge	Disciplinary Knowledge	Assessment	Misconceptions	Key Vocabulary	Knowledge Tracking
Equality and Diversity (Reading Skills) Class reader teacher discretion from a list including 'Noughts and Crosses', 'Curious Incident', 'Things a Bright Girl Can Do', 'Bone Talk', etc. Diverse voices poetry Students explore themes of racism, oppression, and importance of tolerance both in a variety of poetry from an array of perspectives, as well as in a longer prose text.	Students consider the structure of texts, layout, characterisation, context and how these are used by writers to present diversity. Students should then be equipped to discuss these texts in a way that considers them as constructs of meaning and developing personal responses.	Reading/Literature: Paragraph analysing tension in a scene/ chapter Reading/Literature: An essay about how a key character has developed across the text.	 Accuracy of terminology (e.g. difference between similes and metaphors) POC Excellence: addressing misconception that POC narratives begin with oppression and prejudice. 	Tier 2 Analyse, connotations Sympathy/empathy, mature, innocent, naïve Oppression, imperialism, segregation, prejudice, colonialism Tier 3 Form, free verse, metaphor, simile, dramatic monologue Tension, exposition, rising action, falling action, denouement Conflict, resolution, character development Accent, dialect, slang, formality, colloquial	Class Reader Links to Memorable Characters and AMSND in Y7: developing understanding of the structure of a narrative text, developing language analysis, developing personal response, inference and comprehension, tracking characterisation, analysing an extract, Poetry Links to Y7 Survival of the Fittest: Developing ability to analyse poetry



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Term 3	The Gothic (Writing Skills) Through extracts students explore the conventions of the Gothic genre and how writers create suspense. Sentence structures and accurate use of punctuation to create certain effects. Broaden use of vocabulary. Understanding and application of genre conventions, including different character archetypes of Gothic genre and language/ structural techniques. Accurate spelling.	Students develop independent reading skills and close reading of the effects of how writers use punctuation. Students develop their writing skills focusing on creating suspense and setting.	Writing: Students write the opening to a Gothic story based on an image	 Difference between Horror, Gothic horror and terror Comma splicing Inaccurate sentence structures e.g. missing tense or subject 	Tier 2 Corrupting, evil, menacing, sinister, monstrous, terrifying, despair, vengeful (see Y8 Gothic Word Wheel) Omens, portents, , tyrannical, melancholy, connotations, illicit, transgression, gnarled, perilous, dismal Tier 3 Pathetic fallacy, personification, the obscure, unreliable narrators, character tropes such as femme fatale and damsel in distress	Building on Y7 New Beginnings: how setting can be created Building on Y7 Survival of the Fittest: sentence types and clauses Building on reading SOLs from Y7 and E&D: inference, decoding, comprehension, analysing language
Term 4	Childhood: Poetry (Reading Skills) An exploration of ideas about childhood and growing up through poetry. Students explore a variety of poetry based on the theme of childhood. Understanding poetic devices and conventions of poetry and the ability to compare poet's ideas and methods such as tone.	Students develop their own writing skills. In the other part of the unit, students consider different perspectives of childhood through studying poem	Reading/Literature: Students compare two poems (Vernon Scannell's 'Nettles' and Sylvia Plath's 'You're')	 Poems have to rhyme Poetry is boring Accuracy of terminology That there is one correct way to interpret texts 	Tier 2 Compare, analyse, connotation, in contrast, similarly, alternatively etc reflection, nostalgia, inevitable Tier 3 Enjambment, caesura, stanza, semantic field, simile, metaphor, multi-syllabic, poly-syllabic, dramatic monologue, hyperbole, juxtaposition, sibilance, tone	Building on Y8 E&D: Developing knowledge of how to write a personal response, how poets create a voice, how poets use form structure and language to convey meaning Building on poetry Y7 Survival of the Fittest: developing knowledge of how to compare and write developed analytical, comparative paragraphs



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Term 5	Childhood: Non-Fiction (Reading Skills) Using non-fiction texts and comparing writers' perspectives of childhood. Develop students' repertoire of reading, comparison and analysis skills. Understanding persuasive and transactional writing techniques. Understanding how rhetorical modes such as logos, pathos and ethos are used to illustrate non-fictional perspectives on childhood	Analysing and exploring how persuasive and transactional writing techniques help us to understand writers' perspectives. Using context to inform analysis of writers' perspectives.	Reading: Compare two non-fiction extracts (How do the writers use language to present their views about education in The Guardian school uniform article and Michelle Obama's open letter?)	 Understand the difference fiction and non-fiction Difference between objective and subjective 	Tier 2 Mudlarks, analyse, compare, examine Tier 3 Logos, ethos, pathos, bias, objective, subjective, modal verb, contrast, anecdote, triplets, rhetorical question, repetition	Building on Y7 Survival of the Fittest: how writers use language to persuade Building on Y8 E&D: inference and comprehension, knowledge of how to summarise extracts Building on Y8 Childhood poetry: knowledge of how to compare, how to write a personal response New knowledge: wider persuasive devices, such as logos, ethos, pathos.
Term 6	Childhood: Dickens (Writing Skills) Through reading a variety of extracts from Dickens' novels, students how Dickens represented growing up in Victorian Understanding and exploring Dickens' use of language and structure in terms of what it can illustrate about Victorian childhood and characters	Utilising Dickens' writing skills to create characters by using sentence structures, ambitious punctuation and a broadened application of vocabulary	Writing: Creating a character and introducing them to readers.	 Dickens is inaccessible and irrelevant to modern society Effectively linking between paragraphs 	Piercing, wrenching, whisper, trudging, rugged, slight, scrawny, dingy, pristine, dishevelled, Tier 3 Synonym, antonym Victorian, contrast, dialogue, lists	Links to Y8 Gothic: knowledge of 20th century texts decoding vocabulary and building vocabulary Y7 Revision: Punctuating speech, sentence functions