

Overall intent statement

Our ambitious, knowledge-rich and engaging English curriculum promotes a love of language and literature. The inclusive and coherently planned program enables students to develop the literacy skills necessary to be successful in life. Recall and retention activities are integrated into lessons with regular assessment and homework activities helping to consolidate learning. Although we aim to achieve outstanding academic results, our curriculum goes beyond examinations. Transferable skills equip students with communication, analytical and evaluative skills that are valuable for future employment. Cultural Capital is built by giving students the opportunity to read texts in context, by contemporary authors and those celebrated within our literary heritage. Overall, the English curriculum aims to build resilience and encourage learners to be ambitious and aspirational.

Intent statements by Key Stage

	Subject-based curriculum
Key Stage 3	Our curriculum is progressive, returning and building on concepts introduced in Year 7 each year. Through a challenging KS3 curriculum that visits both literary classics and thought-provoking non-fiction, students are given access to the knowledge and terminology they need to be confident and resilient in their studies through investigatory learning. Students will learn to critique and analyse texts in order to develop articulation and analytical skills which act as foundations to build success for life. Crucially, students are supported towards mastering their own creative voice. We intend to develop empathy through identifying key themes in literature and a wide variety of attitudes in non-fiction. Our pathway enables students to become proactive, ready to ask questions rather than accept answers.
Key Stage 4	As English is a knowledge-based curriculum, we believe that knowledge underpins the application of articulation and analytical skills; both are interleaved in lessons. In English Language, we seek to provide students with the skills needed for success in life, as well as inspiring those students who wish to pursue more language-based careers. In English Literature we seek to enhance students' ability to think deeply about humanity, and to engage with their Literary Heritage, whilst developing the necessary skills to comment on and evaluate abstract ideas. As a department we define the knowledge our students need and help them recall it by having a carefully planned progression beginning in Year 10.
Key Stage 5	In English Literature A Level, the intent is to consolidate and deepen understanding of literature texts from a range of different time periods and forms. This includes promoting wider reading as well as examining critical views and the social and historical contexts that shape content and meaning. In Film Studies, our intent is for the curriculum to promote an understanding of how films can both reflect and challenge the dominant ideologies of societies at key times in history. We also wish to create a passion for critiquing film objectively using sophisticated levels of analysis. In both subjects, students will become more confident and sophisticated in essay writing skills and learn how to apply analysis and theory successfully to examination questions.