



At Bamburgh School our vision is that pupils will develop the **independence** that they need to lead fulfilling lives by knowing and achieving more throughout their educational journey. This vision underpins the curriculum offer in every subject, and informs our over-arching curriculum intent: to empower pupils **to understand and interact positively** with the world around them. The four elements which constitute our school motto (**aspiration, commitment, good manners and enjoyment**) are regularly re-inforced by staff and well-understood by pupils - providing them with an easily accessible route map to success.

English Curriculum Intent

Our over-arching intent is to give our students the tools that they need to progress further in their education, as well as ensuring that they leave Bamburgh School with the literacy skills that they need to succeed in life as they enter into adulthood.

It is our intention to ensure that, by the end of their secondary education, all students are able to read fluently, and with confidence, in any subject in their forthcoming education upon leaving school. We pride ourselves on our strong moral purpose to prepare our students not only for the classroom, but for life beyond it. We hope this, alongside our curriculum as a whole, will provide our students with the necessary tools to participate fully as a member of society.

At EY and Key Stages 1 and 2

In EY and Key Stages 1 and 2, children will have access to a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum to enable them to learn and **make progress, with growing independence**. Our children will **learn in a structured and comprehensive way**, using **exciting, first hand experiences including 'World Book Day' and live drama events**, which will enhance their overall understanding, **giving them the skills to have confidence in their ability and the aspirations to aim high**.

Success in literacy will help pupils to **appreciate that all areas of this vitally important subject are valued** and **will equip them with a breadth of knowledge, which will last a lifetime**. These key skills will allow our children to **respect themselves, the school, their local community and the wider world**.

At Key Stage 3

In KS3, the main intent is **to ensure that students leave with a functional level of literacy** that enables them **to progress as they enter adulthood**. Alongside this, we strive to **ensure that each student fulfils their potential** so that they are able **to complete an English accreditation at KS4 which enables him/her to make the next steps in their education**.

In order to help our students' understanding of the world around them our curriculum focuses on texts that cover real life issues that are prevalent today. By doing this, we aim to enable our students to think more deeply about social issues and to help shape them as responsible citizens once they leave Bamburgh School.

At Key Stage 4

In KS4 at Bamburgh School our intent is to enable the students to leave school with a functional level of literacy that will help them progress as they enter adulthood. As well as this, we want them to fulfil their maximum potential and achieve English accreditation that will enable them to take the next steps in their education.

Our vision is to develop students who can articulate their thoughts and opinions from studying a rich array of literature. This is done by encouraging them to read a range of fiction and non-fiction, including pre 19th century texts as well as more contemporary works. We also stress highly the importance of continual improvement and aspiring to achieve their optimum level through hard work and commitment to their studies.

By exploring a range of different texts, we aim to develop our students understanding of English literary heritage as well as enabling them to question and evaluate social issues raised in the texts that may be prevalent today e.g. How the poor are treated in 'Blood Brothers' and 'A Christmas Carol'. By developing our students' awareness of the world around them through literature, we aim to develop not only their English skills but also their ability to think deeper about social issues and to develop their own ideas and opinions as responsible citizens once they leave school.

In terms of our curriculum content, we aim to build further on the prior work at KS3, developing the students' skills further in order for them to access appropriate accreditation.

At KS4 we currently offer the following courses: Step Up to English and GCSE English. These courses allow the students to study a range of different texts and topics which allow them to develop their skills in all four areas of English as well as promoting enjoyment. For example, the Step Up to English course covers topics such as Music, Leisure and Gothic Horror, while at GCSE the students can study a range of texts from different times and cultures, exploring a range of different issues. The programmes of study allow the students to take part in a range of activities such as drama and roleplay, debates as well as analysing texts and developing their opinions on issues raised in them.

Reading Across School - Curriculum Intent

It is our intent at Bamburgh School to provide students with a high-quality education in English that will teach students to speak, read and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others effectively. We believe that reading is an absolutely fundamental skill which enables fuller engagement and a more rounded enjoyment of every other school subject and life outside the classroom.

Starting in our Primary setting, phonics will be emphasised in the early teaching of reading to all pupils when they start school. This continues beyond early teaching throughout school, for

those students who require additional support or those who join us later in their education. We encourage all students to read widely across both fiction and non-fiction to develop their knowledge of themselves and the world in which they live, to establish an appreciation and love of reading, to gain knowledge across the curriculum and develop their comprehension skills. In the primary department, all English teaching is based around a quality text - one for each unit of work done. In this way, our students are immersed in literature, and our intent for our students to appreciate the magic of books and reading is given the priority that it deserves.

In Key Stages Three and Four, we aim to provide our students with the skills and knowledge needed to appreciate the beauty of language and to explore the writer's craft, all the while continuing to emphasise the love and enjoyment of reading. Our intent at the end of our pupils' time at Bamburgh is for them to be able to read fluently, and explore their own feelings about what they have read - with an emphasis on creativity and the discovery and utilisation of the students' voice. We offer opportunities to explore current topics through reading both fiction and non-fiction, thus widening our students' understanding of the world in which they live. Some challenging texts and concepts are explored through accessible and relatable links where we encourage students to develop their own blossoming opinions on the written word.