

## Year 8 - English

### What will be studied?

#### Topics

We have a spiral curriculum in which students revisit topics so that they are able to deepen their understanding of key concepts and knowledge in the discipline of English. Students bring the wealth of their previous knowledge and build on it with each revisit, as the content becomes increasingly more challenging and complex.

#### Year 8 - Finding your Place

##### Autumn Term

Reading a novel: *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins

##### Spring 1

Poetry Anthology: *Finding your Place*

##### Spring 2

Modern play: *Refugee Boy* (Benjamin Zephaniah's novel adapted for the stage by Lemn Sissay)

##### Summer Term

Shakespeare's women - *Romeo and Juliet*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Taming of the Shrew*

### How do we assess your learning?

Formative assessments: Our lessons and units are planned with multiple opportunities for formative feedback - to enable students to improve and refine their skills and knowledge. This takes the form of self and peer reflections, collaborative workshopping and interrogations, in-class marking, questioning, modelling and support as well as feedback on student responses in the form of whole class feedback, sample and model marking and Google Classroom feedback

Mid-Year Assessment: an opportunity for students to consolidate their reading and writing skills. These assessments are awarded a percentage to indicate the level of skills demonstrated in this paper.

### End of Year Examination

#### How will I be assessed at the end of the year?

Students will sit an assessment that consolidates their reading and writing skills. These assessments are awarded a percentage to indicate the level of skills demonstrated in this paper.

**How can I help my child?**

**Guidance and advice**

Encourage your child to read regularly - both fiction and non fiction texts. If possible, reading with your child and talking about their responses to what they've read can be hugely beneficial.

Questions to ask/ start discussions:

What happens in your story? Can you summarise it?

Who were your favourite characters and why?

What kinds of people / attitudes are seen in the story?

What surprised you in what you read?

Whose point of view is it told from? What do you learn about this voice / character?

Does it remind you of anything you've read before?

What was interesting about how the story is told?

Did the writer make any choices that affected your responses to the story?

What was your favourite scene /moment? What was it that interested you?

What predictions of yours turned out to be accurate? What further predictions do you have?

If you were the writer, what would you have changed about the story?

If you were to continue this story/ write a sequel, what would you include?

Encourage your child to write regularly - this could be story writing, keeping a diary or journal or any other form they are interested in. If possible, talk to your child about their writing, encouraging them to revisit, redraft and refine their ideas.

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