



What will you learn?

Topic(s)

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 will you be assessed?

Overall assessment

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 assessment

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.



Which resources should you use?

Books, websites, online resources, trips and visits

Read regularly - both fiction and non fiction texts. Talking to someone about what you've read can be hugely beneficial. If possible, parents should be reading with their child(ren).

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?

Write regularly - this could be story writing, keeping a diary or journal or any other form you are interested in. If possible, parents should talk to their child(ren) about their writing, encouraging them to revisit, redraft and refine their ideas.

What independent work can you do?

Books, websites, online resources

Use the VIP Zone, there you will find:

- An 'Independent Learning' folder full of resources and ideas to support your learning
- PLCs [Personal Learning Checks] - use these to rate your understanding of each topic and to recap and stretch your knowledge and skills.

Start revising. Try some of these to improve your understanding of each lesson and to help you prepare for assessments.



- **Summarise your notes:** Identify the key ideas and essential details. This technique improves understanding and retention by making information clearer and more manageable.
- **Flashcards:** Write key information on cards, don't forget to include an example
- **Mind maps:** Visually organize information by creating diagrams that connect ideas. This helps you see the relationships between topics.
- **Mnemonics:** Use songs, rhymes, or acronyms to help remember facts and figures.
- **Recording and replaying:** Record yourself reading notes and listen back to them.
- **Sticky notes:** Write / draw a key point on each note and place them around your house to help with memorisation.

Watch this: BBC Bitesize [The Best Memory Hacks to Help Your Revision](#)