

# English KS3 Learning Journey



## Top 3 tips for parents and carers during KS3

- ✓ Buy a dictionary.
- ✓ Ensure your child spends 5 minutes proof reading any extended pieces of writing.
- ✓ Ensure your child is reading for at least 20 minutes every day.



## Places to visit during KS3

Try the homes of our famous poets and authors like Bronte Parsonage and Dove Cottage. Always support your local library and theatre company.



## Online learning during KS3

[BBC Bitesize](#)



## Student development opportunities during KS3

Scrabble Club, Book Clubs, reading club, theatre visits, public speaking competitions, World Book Day activities.



## Key assessment pieces during KS3

Each topic has a reading, writing or speaking and listening KAP. All KAPs will be marked using an assessment feedback sheet which is associated to the relevant Learning Log. Class teachers will set appropriate Therapy tasks to help students improve. There will also be end of year assessments

# Knowledge, skills and understanding

### Fairy Tales

Fairy tales are the foundation of so many stories that our students will go on to read and study in their lives, and here students have the opportunity to look in more depth at texts like Hansel and Gretel, or learn a new way of looking at an old favourite, such as Cinderella. Our students really begin to develop their critical lens here too, as they start to consider how gender influences the stories that shape our society.

### A Midsummer Night's Dream

Students start their high school journey of studying Shakespeare by looking at this magical comedy by the great bard. Looking at the conventions of a comedy and the role that fairies have to play in the plot, students think about how these plays could be staged in the Globe Theatre, past and present.

### Noughts and Crosses

Often referred to as a modern classic of our time, one which The Guardian claims will 'will make you cry, laugh and cry some more', Noughts and Crosses is our Year 8 novel which will take students on an emotional rollercoaster. As students read the novel, they will deepen their understanding of what is considered wrong and right within society and develop a more evaluative approach to Literature.

### Crime Literature

In this unit, students encounter and develop an understanding of the genre of crime and mystery. They will study a selection of prose and poetry, considering how the crime genre has changed and developed over time.

### Dystopian Fiction

Students will study an assortment of extracts from across the genre of dystopia, identifying key conventions and searching for inspiration for their own creative writing. Taking in all types of dystopian fiction from the classic 1984 by George Orwell, to more contemporary blockbuster dystopian worlds like 'The Hunger Games'.

### A View from the Bridge

Students complete a full read through of this modern drama, exploring the idea of family and masculinity and how this can impact the individual.

### KS4 Transition - War and Words

Students will study and analyse a range of war poems, letters, diary entries and experiences from both historic and modern-day wars. This unit includes some poetry from the Eduqas GCSE Poetry Anthology and a range of contemporary poems and articles about conflict.

### KS4 Transition Unit - An Inspector Calls: Social Responsibility and Drama

Students explore Priestley's play in full, building their understanding of characters, plot and themes and applying contextual knowledge to support this.

### Identities

Students begin to consider how identities are created, and what the term 'identity' means to them, through poetry, how people speak and how they represent their identities in their own autobiographies.

### Blood Brothers

After reading Romeo and Juliet and understanding the divide of the families, students here will look at how the twins are separated in Blood Brothers and how they decide what is right and wrong for different people and their beliefs.

### Myths and Legends

Within this unit, students explore myths and legends from around the world to see how they influence the society they live in and the stories they know. Initially, students focus on Ancient Greek myths and legends that have influenced European society, considering the stories of Medusa, Pandora's Box and Persephone. Students then cast their gaze to other parts of the world, looking at myths and legends from England to as far away as Polynesia to better understand the world in which they live.

### Iconic Speeches

Through some of the most famous speeches in the English language, students look at how history affects society and how their own voices can cause change as they create their own influential speech on something important to them.

### The Bone Sparrow

Our Year 7 students read a full novel in their English lessons, looking at the important themes and ideas that appear in Zana Fraillon's The Bone Sparrow. They consider the construction of the novel, and how the ideas that appear are relevant to their own lives and experiences, and the world around them.

### Gothic Literature

Students will study a collection of extracts from famous gothic texts including Frankenstein, The Woman in Black and Dracula to establish conventions of the genre and apply a gothic style to their own creative writing.

### Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet

Building on their understanding of Shakespeare and the conventions of comedy from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', students will read Romeo and Juliet and study the drastic change that play takes into the realm of tragedy. By looking at the issues that Romeo and Juliet face, our students will be able to read empathetically and increasingly consider what is right and wrong in emotional situations.

### Animal Farm

With a greater focus on socio-historical knowledge and how this impacts our understanding of a text, students explore authorial intent and allegory in Orwell's classic novel.

### Write like a...

Grounded in 'real world' application, students explore up to four different disciplines of writing: Journalism, Screenwriting, Poetry Writing and Comedy Writing. Students will create their own portfolios of written work in response to 'real world' briefs and style guides preparing them for future careers as writers.