

English @ WBS Year 9 Roadmap

Subject Aim:

The main aim of the English curriculum is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping you with a strong command of the spoken and written word, and to develop your love of literature through reading for enjoyment across a wide range of styles and genres.

The Gothic

The Gothic unit is a really exciting opportunity for students to engage with challenging literary texts. Students will learn specifically about aspects of The Gothic whilst studying Jekyll and Hyde as their main text. There will be opportunities to dip into other significant historical writing.

We will study:

- Atmosphere and Setting
- Villains
- Mystery and Fear

Allegorical and Political Writing

In this unit Students will learn specifically about Allegorical and Political Writing whilst studying Animal Farm. Using Animal Farm as the starting point students will study other examples of how language can be used to affect an audience.

We will look carefully at:

- Corruption
- Speech Writing
- Hierarchy
- Exploitation.

Poetry

This collection of poems allow for students to examine ideas about identity and culture. This unit is particularly relevant to our society and staff are encouraged to contextualise their lessons using material from the media.

Some of the themes we study are:

- Belonging
- Class
- Slavery
- Division

The Tragic Genre

Here we study Tragedy as a genre. In order to do this successfully we learn about social context, study a range of tragic extracts and examine a source text through the lens of tragedy.

Some of the ideas we examine are:

- Conflict
- Fate
- Catharsis

Language in Time and Place

Language in Time and Place is a really exciting unit in which we study how language affects our identity and how we adopt an unconscious bias towards certain accents and therefore lazy assumptions about levels of intelligence.

We study a number of different language areas:

- Accent bias
- Power
- Change over time
- Gender

Critical Literacy: Diverse Short Stories (Timetable Promotion)

This is an entirely new unit in which we study a variety of authors from Bali Rai to David Almond. The intent of the text choice is to help promote critical thinking about contemporary issues and help prepare students to engage with more challenging texts.

Each sub-unit is subdivided into:

- Identity
- Tolerance
- Justice
- Democracy
- Power

Assessment

There is an Assessment at the end of each unit. It will take place in the **second to last week of each half term**.

In this year, students will complete:
2 Writing Assessments
2 Reading Assessments
1 Drama Assessment
Speaking and Listening Assessment

Homework and Revision

Homework is set centrally on Brightspace for all of Year 9.

Each week students are expected to complete **one** of the following:

- An extended piece of writing
- Preparation for the upcoming lesson
- Research into the time period or context

Enrichment Themes

- Year 9 is the beginning of overt study for GCSE. As such we encourage students to learn about the world around them using issues which are immediately relevant to them and their environment.
- Each unit 'does' support learning at GCSE but is not simply an opportunity to make the course a three year experience.

Where Next?

In Year 10, you will build on the skills and knowledge you have developed in Year 9 and should be able to confidently apply it to GCSE level texts and genres not yet encountered.