

**Curriculum Area: English Year: 8
2015/2016**

Topics	Year Curriculum	How you can support learning at home, eg. Books, websites, family learning through visits.
<p>Module 1 The non fiction text: Extracts from The Diary of Anne Frank</p>	<p>This exciting new scheme of learning has been introduced to the Y8 curriculum and offers students the opportunity to fully engage with this inspiring text. Students will explore the context of Frank’s work and gain an appreciation of how this influenced her writing.</p> <p>Throughout the module, students will have opportunities to take part in presentations, group discussion and role play activities which are intended to really bring the text to life. As they read the diary extracts, students will also analyse language and structure in detail and will develop skills in evaluating the effect of these choices on the reader.</p> <p>Assessment will take the form of one extended reading response, based on a section of the text and also one non fiction writing piece.</p> <p><u>Opportunities for the Development of Literacy Skills.</u> Students will use their study of the text to develop their range of vocabulary further to include a range of more ambitious language, specifically related to autobiographical, narrative and descriptive writing.</p> <p>Through their close analysis of language, grammatical and structural choices, they will learn how to produce high-quality writing using many of the techniques that she uses.</p> <p>Spelling of key words and the revision and introduction of new grammatical and linguistic terms will also feature in this module.</p>	<p>http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/annefrank/summary.html</p> <p>The website above contains a useful summary for revising the text.</p> <p>Please continue to encourage your son/daughter to take responsibility for learning their spellings and key grammatical terms at home.</p>



Module 2

Study of a Shakespeare play

In the first term of Year 8, students will learn about the works of William Shakespeare. Specifically, students will learn about the Elizabethan theatre and about the language, structure and characters in their chosen play. They will revisit the reading skills taught in Year 7 and build on these to analyse selected scenes from the play in detail, focusing on language, structure and form. Students will also consider the social and historical context of the play and will be given opportunities for discussion around the way that this influences characterisation.

Students will also have the opportunity to fully engage with the text through group-performance work.

Towards the end of the module, students will use their higher level reading skills to produce a GCSE English Literature style essay based on a set scene from the play.

Opportunities for the Development of Literacy Skills.

In the first weeks of this half term, students will re visit the KS3 list of spellings and grammatical terms for Y7 to secure their knowledge in these areas and so that any gaps are addressed . Students will then move on to develop their range of vocabulary and learn the spelling of more complex words and grammatical terms from the KS3 Y8 spelling list.

Securing and developing students' understanding of how to use more complex punctuation their writing will also be an important focus.

<http://www.bardweb.net/plays/index.html> has access to full texts for all Shakespeare's plays. Students will choose from Hamlet, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Merchant of Venice or Much Ado About Nothing.

Students will be given extended learning tasks with a specific literacy focus each week. Parents and carers can support students by practising spellings and testing their knowledge of key grammatical terms on a regular basis.

Activities for the revision of KS2 spelling and grammar can be found at:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling_grammar/

The KS3 spelling list can be found at:

<http://www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/home/dick/tta/spelling/ks3list.htm>



**Module 3
Poetry**

In this module, students will study a range of poetry from the AQA Anthology, based on the theme of Love to familiarise them with the type of texts that they will be required to study at KS4. Students will study each text in detail in order to gain an appreciation of the craft of poetry: how language can be used in a variety of ways to create different effects, such as rhythm and rhyme. They will learn how to analyse poetry for meaning and how to write their own poetry in a range of styles incorporating many of the techniques that established poets use.

Assessment will take the form of a formal essay which will ask students to compare aspects of the poetry they have studied in this module. This is a relatively new and challenging skill for students at KS3 but is one that is crucial for success in both the English Language and Literature exams.

Opportunities for spoken language skills to be developed will also be available as part of this novel in the form of group discussions and individual presentations. Drama based activities will also enable students to fully engage with and appreciate the texts.

Opportunities for the Development of Literacy Skills.

In this term, students will continue to secure the spelling of key words and to develop new vocabulary, including unfamiliar words from the poems they are studying. They will also continue to learn key linguistic and grammatical terminology and will have opportunities to study the way that writers use these techniques skilfully to produce effective, engaging poems.

Students will also study the effects created by the author's choice of structure and punctuation and will have the opportunity to apply these choices to their own writing.

Students can borrow a wide range of poetry books from the LRC.

Please speak to your son/daughter about the poems they read; discuss the overall meaning and effect of interesting words and phrases.

Spelling and grammar will continue to be a focus for extended learning. Please ensure that your son/daughter practises spellings and learns key terms regularly.



<p>Module 4 Preparation for the KS3 exam</p>	<p>This term, students in Y8 will sit an exam which mirrors part of the English Language exam that they will sit in Y11. This module will prepare students thoroughly for this by consolidating their knowledge and understanding of how to interpret, summarise and analyse a range of non fiction and fiction texts and also how to adapt their writing to suit a range of purposes and audiences.</p> <p><u>Opportunities for the Development of Literacy Skills.</u></p> <p>Students will develop their range of vocabulary related to fiction and non fiction texts and will be encouraged to learn the spelling of these words. The range will include more ambitious language including connectives, discourse markers and varied sentence openers.</p> <p>Planning, editing and redrafting will continue to be an important skill for students to learn in order to produce the very best quality work in this module.</p>	<p>Please encourage your son/daughter to read a range of fiction and non fiction texts including newspaper, web and magazine articles regularly so that they become familiar with these types of text.</p> <p>Teachers have access to a range of KS3 exam past papers. Please encourage your son/daughter to borrow these in order to practise their exam skills at home.</p>
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<p>Module 5 The novel</p>	<p>As part of the ongoing preparation work for GCSE English Literature, students will study a novel in depth during the final half term in Year 8. Students will build on the skills taught in Y7 in the way that language, structure and character development across the text will be analysed and evaluated so that students gain an in-depth knowledge of style and structure, as well as the author's craft.</p> <p>Opportunities for spoken language development, through discussion, presentation and drama based activities are incorporated into the scheme to enable all learners to fully engage with the text and students will receive a separate level for their contribution.</p> <p>Assessment for this unit will take the form of one extended reading response based on a section of the novel and an extended writing response.</p> <p><u>Opportunities for the Development of Literacy Skills.</u></p> <p>Students will continue to develop their range of vocabulary related to fiction texts and will be encouraged to learn the spelling of these words. The range will include more ambitious language including discourse markers and varied sentence openers.</p> <p>Planning, editing and redrafting of the writing pieces will continue to be an important skill for students to learn in order to produce the very best quality work in this module.</p>	<p>Please encourage your son/daughter to read for pleasure on a regular basis. A selection of engaging novels are available from the LRC for students to borrow.</p> <p>Spelling and grammar will continue to be a focus for extended learning. Please ensure that your son/daughter practises spellings and learns key terms regularly.</p>
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