



## **Curriculum Overview**

### **Subject: English and Drama**

The English curriculum is differentiated appropriately for each class ranging from sensory engagement and experience to creating different styles of writing, speaking and listening and drama.

All schemes of work and topics are based on the National Curriculum, giving our students the same terms of reference as all pupils. All work is adapted to suit the needs of individual pupils and is age appropriate.

To support reading and spelling progress, all students follow a scheme appropriate to their level.

Some students work on the Osborne sound system developing letter sounds, working on sound and word recognition.

Some students follow the Dockside and Rapid Plus reading schemes and accompanying follow up work and computer programmes.

Students work on units which aim to enable them to participate in and gain knowledge, skills and understanding associated with the artistic practice of drama. Students have the opportunity to create and develop a range of roles in scripted texts, responding to other roles within the text and analysing characters and themes. Students have the opportunity to improvise, devise and script drama for a range of audiences as well as rehearse and respond to their own practice and that of others.

Shakespeare is taught across the school, supporting our participation in the National Shakespeare Schools Festival. This provides Key Stage 4 students with an opportunity for students to read, edit and rehearse a Shakespeare play. They then perform in a local theatre alongside other schools from across the county. This is supported with a whole school Shakespeare Week, allowing all students to engage with and experience Shakespeare at a level appropriate for their learning.

### **Key Stage 3:**

In Key Stage 3 many of the units explored are based around a text. The students get really involved in these. They range from year 7 when the students learn about Islands and explore *Treasure Island* through to year 9 when, as part of the superheroes unit, the pupils design and create their own Super heroes. We also investigate fantasy and issues and dilemmas through *Harry Potter*.

The students also experience non-fiction from learning how to follow and write their own instructions to auto biographical writing, learning and writing about themselves.

### **Key Stage 4:**

English at Key Stage 4 is delivered at a level appropriate to the students. This is accredited through Transition Challenge, Entry Level Certificates and at GCSE level. The students will follow a pathway which is designed to meet the criteria for each level of accreditation as well as gaining the necessary

skills to equip them to use English throughout their later life. Units studied include: Transition Challenge Units in 'Knowing How', 'Making Choices' and 'Moving Forward', Entry Level Units focusing on 'Detective Stories' and GCSE 'Shakespeare' Units, amongst others.

Students in Key Stage 4 also take part in devising, rehearsing and performing a Shakespeare play as part of Shakespeare Schools Festival. The skills and knowledge that they develop influence their work across the units they study, as well as improving their skills in speaking and listening, scripting drama, editing texts, refining and sharing their work.

**Accreditation:**

- AQA Entry level certificate
- ASDAN Transition Challenge
- GCSE Foundation level (AQA)