



English

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 to 9)

Unit	Topic	What students learn	Term
Year 7			
Unit 1	This Is Me: letters and creative writing	Formal and informal letters; the super sentence, Echo, Drop and Zoom techniques and SOAPAIMS; inference through Sherlock Holmes; descriptive writing inspired by Anne Frank, Roald Dahl's Boy and autobiographical writing; mid-point and end-of-unit assessments.	Autumn 1
Unit 2	Oracy and the power of persuasion	Group discussion, voice and body language; persuasive techniques and rhetoric in speeches such as Malcolm X's and King George VI's; comparing monarchs' Christmas speeches; writing and delivering an assessed Christmas speech.	Autumn 2
Unit 3	War Horse: conflict and courage	Reading Michael Morpurgo's novel with its First World War context; narrative perspective, character, themes of friendship and courage, and comparisons with recruitment material and war poetry; assessed extract analysis.	Spring 1 – Spring 2
Unit 4	Shakespeare: family dynamics	Shakespeare's life and theatre; family relationships in A Midsummer Night's Dream compared with Romeo and Juliet; analytical paragraph writing; an assessed performed interview and a written analysis of an unseen extract.	Summer 1 – Summer 2
Year 8			
Unit 1	Noughts & Crosses	Dystopian fiction and the play script of Noughts & Crosses: prejudice, protest, identity, justice and the media; dramatic devices, soliloquy and links with Romeo and Juliet; assessed writing of a deleted scene.	Autumn 1
Unit 2	Media: Christmas advertising	How adverts create meaning through signs, camera shots, target audiences, intertextuality and narrative theory, with Sainsbury's and Tesco adverts as examples; assessed evaluation.	Autumn 2
Unit 3	Animal Farm	George Orwell's allegory and the Russian Revolution: Old Major's speech, the Seven Commandments, propaganda, the rise of Napoleon's tyranny and Orwell's warning about power; assessed essay.	Spring 1
Unit 4	Gothic synoptic	Gothic conventions, settings and outsiders in extracts from Frankenstein, Dracula, Wuthering Heights, Jane Eyre, Jekyll and Hyde, Rebecca, Coraline and others; pathetic fallacy and tension; assessed analysis and Gothic creative writing.	Spring 2 – Summer 1
Unit 5	Shakespearean tragedy	The tragic hero and key scenes from Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth and Julius Caesar: fate, ambition, guilt and rhetoric; comparing the downfall of tragic heroes.	Summer 2

Unit	Topic	What students learn	Term
Year 9			
Unit 1	Creative writing	Structural and technical skills in descriptive writing, sentence control, punctuation and ambitious vocabulary; assessed description of Victorian London.	Autumn 1
Unit 2	Victorian villains and heroes	Victorian society, poverty, workhouses, prisons and schools through Dickens (A Christmas Carol, Oliver Twist, Nicholas Nickleby) and Oscar Wilde; improving earlier creative writing using Victorian literature.	Autumn 2
Unit 3	The Great Gatsby	F. Scott Fitzgerald's novella and the Roaring Twenties: narration, character, symbolism, old and new money, and the American Dream; assessed extract analysis.	Spring 1 – Spring 2
Unit 4	War poetry	Power and conflict poems including The Soldier, Exposure, Bayonet Charge, Poppies, Remains, War Photographer and The Charge of the Light Brigade, with their historical context; assessed analysis of Exposure.	Summer 1
Unit 5	Spoken Language (NEA)	What makes an effective speech; choosing a topic, planning, drafting and rehearsing; delivering an assessed speech and answering audience questions for the Spoken Language endorsement.	Summer 2