

ENGLISH Curriculum Intent

Our ambitious aims

By the end of their time with us at Gloucester Academy, our students will be able to:

- To understand what it means to be 'human' and how this is expressed so that they can have a full part in the world around them
- To identify and explore the presentation of abstract concepts in literature so that they can understand the beauty of the arts and contribute to them as they grow.
- To express themselves clearly and with confidence in all aspects of their future studies and life

Big ideas

To achieve our aims, students will be exposed to and develop a deep understanding of several powerful ENGLISH concepts

Concept	Definition	Rationale
Abstract concepts	These are big ideas and feelings like love, friendship, jealousy, loyalty and belonging.	Students understand the big concepts that guide us and our decisions as humans as these underpin art and literature as well as our own self expression
identity	this is how we define who we are and who other are, to us	students understand how we see ourselves and others and how this is presented to the world
control	this is the power of influence and direction over people or events, who has it, and who wants it.	students understand the ways that people try to have power over the world and people around them, whether this is for good or bad.
language	this is the basic tools of communication, how we share what we mean with others	students understand and apply the ways that words and grammar are put together to express specific messages.

Curriculum journey

In English, our students will study an ambitious curriculum that is both challenging for all and broad and balanced in scope.

Year	Summary of study	Narrative & Rationale
7	Origins - stories Journeys - 'Treasure Island' Love - 'Twelfth Night'	All units we teach in Key Stage 3 are supported by extracts and excerpts of a huge range of literary and seminal works. These include poetry, drama, speeches, essays and short stories. They work together to weave the rich tapestry that underpins the key concepts that we deliver in each unit.
8	The Fear of the Unknown - stories The Fragile Mind - extracts from Shakespeare and literature Identity - 'To Kill a Mockingbird'	We start KS3 by teaching origin stories from mythology to religion. This provides the foundation of our shared narrative as humans so that we can begin to understand our identity . We then move to 'journeys' and the way a hero and heroism are explored. This allows students to understand how the abstract concept of 'Love' has been presented and is explored across the ages and a full range and styles of text. In Year 8, we build on the understanding of where we come from and how abstract feelings are presented to be able to explore gothic literature in the 'Fear of the Unknown' and the impact this has through flawed characters in 'The Fragile Mind'.
9	Conflict - poetry and 'Journey's End' Dystopia - '1984' Rhetoric and Revolution - speeches	The final unit of the year explores how 'Identity' and society's view of it evolves over time. Year 9 starts with an investigation of how humans can be so destructive in the 'Conflict' unit with investigations ranging in history from 'The Crucible' to modern warfare. 'Dystopia' explores how the writers use language and exploit ideology to control humanity. Finally we explore how language can shape and change our world in 'Rhetoric and Revolution'.
10	Language Paper 1 Literature Anthology: Power and Conflict Literature Shakespeare: Macbeth Language Paper 2	



11	Literature Modern Prose: An Inspector Calls Literature: Unseen Poetry Literature C19th text: A Christmas Carol	<p>These units prepare our students expertly to tackle the two GCSEs that we do in Year 10 and Year 11: AQA English Language and AQA English Literature. We prepare students for the skills required to decode authorial intent in 'An Inspector Calls' by studying Journey's End amongst other extracts as well as the oratory work done in 'Rhetoric and Revolution'. Our teaching of 'A Christmas Carol' builds on the explorations of characterisation and language throughout the 'Fragile Mind' unit and 'Origins'. Shakespeare is taught throughout KS3 and 'Macbeth' is a wonderful way to combine this understanding whilst drawing on 'The Fragile Mind' as well as the understanding of context and language developed in 'Twelfth Night'. Our anthology of poetry teaching is based upon the students' understanding of word craft throughout KS3.</p> <p>We interweave the skills required for the Language papers with the literature texts building on the close reading, comprehension and analysis work taught throughout Years 7, 8 and 9, preparing them for a lifelong love and study of language and literature.</p>
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