



## ENGLISH Curriculum Intent

### Our ambitious aims

***By the end of their time with us at Gloucester Academy, our students will be able 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
- 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.
- become critical readers, skilled writers and confident speakers, so that they are able to enter every conversation they wish to.

### Big ideas

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

Concept	Definition	Rationale
<b>Abstract concepts</b>	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
<b>identity</b>	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
<b>control</b>	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.
<b>language</b>	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	<p><b>Morality - good vs evil</b> Exploring the start of our stories <b>Journeys - <i>Treasure Island</i></b> Considering adventure and heroism <b>Relationships - <i>Romeo and Juliet</i></b> Discussing different relationships</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>We start KS3 by exploring morality, and the divide between good and evil, in <i>Lord of the Flies</i>. This provides the foundation of our shared narrative as humans so that we can begin to understand our <b>identity</b>. We then move to 'journeys', studying <i>Treasure Island</i> and the way a hero and heroism are explored. This allows students to understand how the <b>abstract concept</b> of 'Love and relationships' has been presented and is explored across the ages with a focus on Shakespeare's <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>. 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' with a detailed reading of <i>Othello</i>. The final poetry unit of the year explores how we can understand our own identity. Year 9 starts with an investigation of how humans can be so destructive in the '<b>Conflict</b>' unit with investigations ranging in history from <i>Journey's End</i> to modern warfare. 'Dystopia' explores how the writers use language and exploit ideology to control humanity when reading <i>Animal Farm</i>. Finally we explore how <b>language</b> can shape and change our world in 'Rhetoric and Revolution', ending by applying all of this to <i>An Inspector Calls</i>, a first initial read of one of our GCSE texts.</p> <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 <i>Journey's End</i> 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 tyrannical power explored in <i>Animal Farm</i>. Our anthology of poetry teaching is based upon the students' understanding of word craft throughout KS3, and the range of poetry they consider across the years.</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>
8	<p><b>Fear of the Unknown- short stories</b> Discussing what creates fear <b>The Fragile Mind - <i>Othello</i></b> Considering honest behaviour <b>Identity - poetry with a voice</b> Exploring how poets present themselves and who they are</p>	
9	<p><b>Conflict - poetry &amp; <i>Journey's End</i></b> Exploring what conflict leads to <b>Dystopia - <i>Animal Farm</i></b> Exploring how power affects us <b>Rhetoric and Revolution - famous speeches and <i>An Inspector Calls</i></b> Analysing how we spark change</p>	
10	<p><b>Memory:</b> War poetry cluster and <i>A Christmas Carol</i> <b>Natural order:</b> Power poetry cluster and <i>Macbeth</i> <b>Autonomy:</b> Identity poetry cluster and writing an argument, followed by personal speeches</p>	
11	<p><b>Humanity:</b> <i>An Inspector Calls</i> analysis. Language paper 1 skills Interleaved literature revision Language paper 2 skills</p>	