



Year 8 English Curriculum

In Year 8 you will study a variety of topics including: a modern novel, a Shakespeare play, dystopian fiction, a modern play as well as the ballad form through the ages.

You will be working towards being able to complete the following **activities**:

- *Write a dramatic monologue*
- *Compare two ballads from different contexts*
- *Analyse how Shakespeare creates comedy in *A Midsummer Night's Dream**
- *Write a formal essay on an aspect of a modern novel.*
- *Write a persuasive article*

You will explore the following **key vocabulary**:

Anecdote, archaism, aside, ballad, metre, comedy, rhyming couplet, defamiliarisation, dramatic monologue, dystopia, utopia, farce, incremental repetition, propaganda, rhetorical question, theme

You will also come across **drama** in KS3.
During the year you may be asked to:

- Play a role in a devised piece
- Play a role in an improvised piece
- Complete a hot seating task
- Give a presentation to the class
- Take part in a class debate

You will practise the following **writing formats** throughout the year:

- Letters
- Articles
- Creative writing
- Diaries
- Speeches
- Emails
- Blogs
- Posters
- Leaflets

Use the checklist below to ensure that your answers in English are successful:

- ✓ 1. Show detailed knowledge of texts
- ✓ 2. Use a range of sentence types for effect
- ✓ 3. Give evidence to support your points
- ✓ 4. Integrate your quotations
- ✓ 5. Spell words correctly
- ✓ 6. Reflect on context when considering texts
- ✓ 7. Use a clear structure
- ✓ 8. Recognise different opinions
- ✓ 9. Link ideas together – draw similarities / comparisons
- ✓ 10. Link back to the question
- ✓ 11. Use a wide range of vocabulary
- ✓ 12. Use a full range of punctuation

Your teacher may refer to these to help you to improve your work

You will be assessed through a combination of extended writing pieces and GCSE-style tests

Your teacher will assess your work in the following areas:
(a) Reading
(b) Writing
(c) Speaking and Listening