

English Curriculum Principles

Our uniting 'sentence' is: "The English Department inspired students to realise the power of language and nurtured a love of literature, allowing students to embrace all opportunities in later life".

By the end of their education, a student of English at Dixons Unity Academy will:

- encounter and appreciate a wide variety of high-quality literature and literary non-fiction involving some of the best that has been
 thought and said. Students will encounter a range of fictional forms such as poetry, plays, novels and short stories; non-fictional
 forms studied will include letters, speeches, diaries, essays and articles. This enriching and challenging experience of the world of
 English is sequenced and arranged thematically by key moral and philosophical concepts, ensuring that students encounter a wide
 variety of perspectives, cultures and historical contexts.
- know how to be able to craft their writing to match the conventions of a wide variety of forms. Students will be able to make judicious choices regarding voice, language, structure and grammar to influence readers in a variety of contexts.

To achieve a true understanding of English, topics have been intelligently sequenced based on the following rationale:

- each academic year, students are exposed to high quality 'core texts' which build on the strong foundations of the previous year or
 Key Stage. Students will be gradually exposed further to the challenging world of English, ensuring mastery of the important
 knowledge and processes involved in their reading and writing. The sequencing of core texts involves the mastering of key concepts,
 time periods and writers including classical works, Shakespeare, Victorian literature and twentieth-century novels and drama.
- within each scheme of work, key knowledge is taught and re-visited on a regular basis through Learn Now activities, Morning Meeting Daily Quizzes and repetition of key skills.

The English curriculum will address social disadvantage by addressing gaps in students' knowledge and skills":

- by providing opportunities for all students to appreciate a broad variety of texts written in a wide variety of contexts, we intend to
 increase the cultural capital of all students allowing them to access concepts and moral standpoints at least as well as their more
 advantaged peers.
- By swiftly addressing gaps in students' knowledge and skills through strategic identification and intervention. By using QLA and data driven planning we will address these gaps through high quality teaching and feedback.
- By rapidly identifying any gaps in students basic literacy by use of marking policy, IP sheets and whole class intervention where reteaching is needed. Outside the classroom intervention to be provided through liaison with the SEND and EAL department as necessary.

We fully believe that English can contribute to the personal development of students at Dixons Unity Academy:

- by selecting a wide variety of texts which provide contrasting viewpoints regarding a range of moral issues, the English curriculum provides a wealth of opportunities for students' moral development through understanding perspectives that differ from those shared by their own communities; thus, promoting cohesion and empathy.
- through selecting texts from a wide variety of cultural contexts and time periods, students' understanding and empathy for a plethora of cultures, historical periods and social / moral issues is deepened.
- through selecting a variety of non-fiction texts in all year groups, ranging from topics such as social media use and healthy eating to sustainability and environmental issues, many opportunities for personal development are provided.
- pupils will have the opportunity to question how texts enter into the canon and think critically about the perspectives presented in texts from different time periods.

Our belief is that homework should be interleaved revision of powerful knowledge that has been modelled and taught in lessons. This knowledge is recalled and applied through a range of low stakes quizzing and practice.

Opportunities are built in to make links to the world of work to enhance the careers, advice, and guidance that students are exposed to:

- each topic taught has a 'careers spotlight', where students will explore a profession linked to that particular unit of work.
- by taking part in national writing competitions, students will be given the opportunity to become published authors gaining insight into this career path and the process and competition involved in becoming a published writer.

A true love of English involves learning about various cultural domains. We teach beyond the specification requirements, but do ensure students are well prepared to be successful in GCSE examinations:

• students are given the opportunity to appreciate narratives from a variety of time periods and cultures ranging from Ancient Greece to modern word literature. Students gain an understanding of other cultural concepts such as early twentieth century political literature with Animal Farm. Students will understand English as a 'world' full of ideas and opportunity beyond the exam specification.

- students will be given the opportunity to probe how playwrights, poets, novelists and journalists utilise nuanced language to convey moral, spiritual and political messages with increasing sophistication each year.
- students will be given the opportunity to read books from our library where we stock an ever-growing selection of books including winners of the Carnegie Medal, The Royal Society award and the Lollies.

Curriculum Overview

All children are entitled to a curriculum and to the powerful knowledge which will open doors and maximise their life chances. Below is a high-level overview of the critical knowledge children will learn in this subject, at each key stage from Year 7 through to Year 11, to equip students with the cultural capital they need to succeed in life. Our powerful, knowledge-rich curriculum teaches both substantive knowledge (facts; knowing that something is the case; what we think about) and procedural knowledge (skills and processes; knowing how to do something; what we think with). There are no skills without bodies of knowledge to underpin them. The curriculum is planned vertically and horizontally giving thought to the optimum knowledge sequence for building secure schema.

		Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3
YEAR 7	New learning	I	plays as well as the English literary canon. In the second half of this cycle, students will study The History of Rhetoric, including the art of persuasion from great	In Cycle 3, students will study Narrative Poetry Through Time, starting with Norse Mythology — Beowulf, and building to a modern day understanding of themes and issues in twenty-first century poems. Students will then cover narrative writing skills. Students will also focus on developing an understanding of historical contexts in relation to analysing literature. A foundation of knowledge around poetic techniques will also be built. Students will consider how structure is used to form narratives.
	Revisited learning	strategies and an introduction to analysis of the writer's craft.	Revision of summarising and	A consolidation of writing and grammar from throughout Year 7.
	Additional information	Careers Spotlight: Writer (importance of creativity)	Careers Spotlight: Film/Theatre Director (entertainment industry)	Careers Spotlight: Politician/MP (importance of communication, written and spoken word)
YEAR 8	New learning	foundational understanding of the Victorian era as a literary context through a range of non-fiction texts. Students will continue to develop analysis of the writer's craft, including more complex choices such as juxtaposition and use of semantic fields as well as key structural features such as	Shakespeare, and make links to related literature and non-fiction such as sonnets and modern day crime issues. Development of the understanding of Shakespeare's world and craft, including Shakespearean techniques and stage craft. Students will also explore how poets crate tone and mood through language and form. Students should now begin to shape their writing using whole text structure, themes and ideas in order to influence and manipulate	Students will explore a modern British novel with Animal Farm by George Orwell. Here, students will appreciate the writer's craft in a political context, and learn concepts such as allegory and diatribe. Students will be able to make detailed links between texts and their historical contexts, as well as their structural features.

		descriptive techniques such as anaphora and anthropomorphism.		
	Revisited learning	Revision of comprehension strategies and analysis of the writer's craft Revision of accurate, sentence construction and organisational features.	and Shakespeare's plays. Comprehension strategies and analysis of writer's craft and	Revision of reading and writing knowledge taught in Year 7 and 8.
	Additional information	(newspaper, magazine, online, TV –	Careers Spotlight: Advertising/the media (connection to illusions, how the world is presented, how to use creativity for good)	Careers Spotlight: Lawyer (how an understanding of the world, ability to write and ability to communicate can help foster a fair and safe society for all)
YEAR 9	New learning	through a core Gothic novel such as Frankenstein or Dracula, as well as appreciating typical Gothic conventions through a range of narratives including, The Tell Tale Heart, The Signal Man and The Red Room, focusing on gothic conventions and the writers' choices of language, structure and form. Consolidation of writers' craft including language analysis, structural analysis and theme tracking. Descriptive writing about settings and narrative writing using themes.	Students will continue to develop their knowledge and understanding of analysis of the writer's craft, including the writer's use of increasingly complex choices, such as subtle differences in narrative voice and perspective whilst providing multiple interpretations. Narrative and descriptive writing incorporating gothic conventions focusing on consolidation of students' repertoire of organisational features, sentence structures and descriptive techniques.	culturally diverse poetry anthology focusing on identity. Here students will learn to track particular themes amongst a group of poems as well as develop an understanding of poetic devices. Students will then study a challenging text linked to the idea of 'Society and Inequality' with An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley. There will be an appreciation of how writers' construct plays to convey a political message and linked context including socialist and capitalist ideology and gender inequality. Consolidation of reading analysis skills with an introduction to analysis of stage craft and how this is used to create meaning. Poetic devices and understanding. Consolidation of knowledge of writing a range of non-fiction forms focusing on crafting compelling arguments about linked themes to 'An Inspector Calls'
	Revisited learning	Consolidation of writers' craft including language analysis, structural analysis and theme tracking. Descriptive writing skills such as use of figurative language to create effective descriptions of settings and narrative writing using themes.	tracking. Students will revisit narrative and descriptive writing incorporating organisational features, sentence structures and	Comprehension strategies and analysis of writer's craft and accurate sentence construction and use of organisational features
	Additional information	Careers Spotlight: Marketing (how English, creativity and knowledge can be used in business)	Careers Spotlight: Actor (importance of expressing ideas in a variety of forms).	Careers Spotlight: Social Worker (how empathy and understanding of human nature can lead to a fairer society).
YEAR 10	New learning	Mastery of knowledge required for AQA English Literature Paper 2 Section B and C https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702 Students begin by completing their study of An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley. There will be an appreciation of how writers' construct plays to convey a	Mastery of knowledge required for AQA English Literature Paper 1 Section B Appreciation of increasingly sophisticated stage craft choices and the genre of tragedy with a focus on sophisticated, alternative interpretations of Shakespeare's Macbeth	https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resour ces/english/specifications/AQA-8700-SP-2015.PDF Mastery of knowledge required for AQA English Language Paper 1 Mastering the interpretation of a range of 20th and 21st century fiction with a focus on sophisticated interpretations Evaluation of language and structure with a focus on applying



		political message and linked context including socialist and capitalist ideology and gender inequality. Appreciation of a range of poems linked to the theme of 'Power and Conflict' with detailed, sophisticated consideration of how different contexts influence poets' choices		these devices with sophistication and originality in students' own work
	Revisited learning	Regular retrieval opportunities for An Inspector Calls. Revision of poetic devices as well as analysis of writers' craft and continuing to develop writing skills.	analysis of writer's craft and	Regular retrieval opportunities for An Inspector Calls, Power and Conflict poetry and Macbeth. Comprehension strategies and analysis of writer's craft and accurate sentence construction and use of organisational features. Narrative and descriptive writing focusing on consolidation of students' repertoire of organisational features, sentence structures and descriptive techniques.
	Additional information	Specification for AQA English Literature https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/ english/gcse/english-literature- 8702	Specification for AQA English Literature https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/ english/gcse/english-literature- 8702/specification-at-a-glance	Specification for AQA English Language https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resour ces/english/specifications/AQA- 8700-SP-2015.PDF
	New learning	Appreciation of 19th century novel - A Christmas Carol forming conceptualised responses regarding how context and language interact to create meaning Mastery of knowledge required for English Language Paper 2 and English Literature Paper 2 Section A	Revision of all GCSE English Literature and Language knowledge with a focus on creating conceptualised, nuanced responses to texts and manipulation of linguistic and structural choices in students' own work	
YEAR 11	Revisited learning	Revision of all GCSE English Literature and Language knowledge with a focus on developing conceptualised and nuanced responses.	Literature and Language knowledge with a focus on	
	Additional information	Specification for AQA English Literature https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/ english/gcse/english-literature- 8702 Specification for AQA English Language Specification for AQA English Language https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resour ces/english/specifications/AQA- 8700-SP-2015.PDF	Specification for AQA English Literature https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/ english/gcse/english-literature- 8702 Specification for AQA English Language Specification for AQA English Language https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resour ces/english/specifications/AQA- 8700-SP-2015.PDF	



Y7 Long Term Plan

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13
	Induction						Assessme	ent Weeks	/				
Cycle 1		Greek Myths: Origins The Myth of Prometheus How were the gods and human kind presented?		Malevolent Monsters: Myth of Medusa How does the	Malevolent Monsters: The Myth of the Minotaur Evaluating Theseus	Greek Myths: Monsters / Mythical Heroes (reading checkpoint) DIRT on reading / evaluation	Mythical Heroes What was the Odyssey?	Describe the	Mythical Heroes The Odyssey 3: Cyclops	Greek Myths: Mythical Heroes The Odyssey 4: Scylla and Charybdis	Mythical Heroes Describing	Greek Myths: DIRT and redrafting (writing checkpoint)	Greek Myths: Closing Gaps: choose a myth to focus on
-					0		Assessme	ent Weeks					
Cycle 2	The Tempest Context & Story	The Tempest Act 1: Opening, Prospero and Ariel language analysis	The Tempest Act 2: coming ashore, Trinculo and Stephano	victim or	The Tempest Ferdinand and Miranda character analysis	The Tempest Climax and resolution – tension and drama	The Tempest Evaluation	History of Rhetoric	History of Rhetoric Ethos: Alexander the Great	History of Rhetoric Logos and Pathos; Churchill	History of Rhetoric Analysing viewpoints: MLK & Kopatcha	History of Rhetoric Rhetorical Writing	History of Rhetoric Rhetorical writing
						/			Assessme	nt Weeks			
Cycle 3	History of Rhetoric Rhetorical Writing	Narrative Poetry Introduction to poetry Beowulf and Epic Poetry	Narrative Poetry Tennyson and Idylls of the King Heroism To mark DIRT	Narrative Poetry The Lion and Albert Mrs Tilcher's Class	writing based on memory	Narrative Poetry Ballads and the Ballad of Frankie and Johnny Freytag's Pyramid Marking and DIRT	Highwayman	4	Assessment / revision	Assessment / revision	Narrative Poetry – Charlotte Diamond Narrative writing Marking and DIRT	Narrative Poetry – Closing gaps	Narrative Poetry – Closing gaps



Y8 Long Term Plan

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13
	Induction						Assessme	ent Weeks					
Cycle 1		19th Century Voices: Poverty What was the 19th Century like?	in 19th Century literature' Great	19th Century Voices: Poverty Dickens and societal issues/ analysing Dickens' use of language in Oliver Twist (reading checkpoint and extended DIRT opportunity)		Non-Fiction: revisiting	19th Century Voices: poverty Transactional writing: writing to persuade (writing checkpoint and extended DIRT opportunity)	19th Century Voices: women Non-fiction: the role of women and Pankhurst's 'Freedom or Death' and creating Pathos	writing to persuade (writing checkpoint and extended DIRT opportunity)	19th Century Voices: Presentation of women in Great Expectations and Cousin Kate (reading checkpoint and extended DIRT opportunity)	•	Colour: Non	Voices of Colour: (writing checkpoint and
Cycle 2	Romeo and Juliet Watch a performance of the play	Romeo and Juliet Re-cap knowledge of Shakespeare and context Genre of Tragedy The Prologue	Romeo and Juliet Act 1, scene 1 Prince Escalus Linked non- fiction	Romeo and Juliet Transactional writing To mark DIRT Romeo Concept of patriarchy	Juliet Patriarchy Juliet and the Nurse Shakespeare an sonnets	Romeo and Juliet Act 1, Scene 5 Romeo and Juliet meet		Juliet	Juliet Act 3, Scene 1 - tension Act 3, scene 2 - grief optional messy mark and feedback	Juliet Lord Capulet Trans actional writing on	Romeo and Juliet Juliet's death and the Capulets' reactions Tragic ending		Romeo and Juliet
m									Assessme	ent Weeks			
Cycle	Reinduction Animal Farm	Animal Farm	Comprehensi	Animal Farm Summarising viewpoints,	Animal Farm Writing persuasively,	Animal Farm Comprehensi on, retrieval	, ,	Animal Farm Comprehensi on, retrieval,		Assessment / revision	Animal Farm Writing descriptively	Animal Farm Closing Gaps	

Compreh	ensi	Comprehens	broken down	summarising	compreh	ensi	and	retrieval and	thematic			
on	and	on and	language	the	on	and	evaluative	comprehensi	analysis and			
retrieval	of	reading	analysis	differences in	retrieval		writing	on, broken	language			
contextua	al			viewpoint				down	analysis			
knowledg	ge							language	Assessment			
								analysis	Prep			



Y9 Long Term Plan

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13
	Induction						Assessme	nt Weeks	1				
Cycle 1		Gothic Literature: Defining the Gothic Gothic conventions Identifying Gothic conventions	Gothic Literature: The Tell Tale Heart: structural analysis (reading checkpoint)	Dr Jekyll and	evaluating ideas (reading checkpoint	Gothic Literature: analysing structural choices in Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde (reading checkpoint and extended DIRT opportunity)	Gothic Literature: Narrative writing (writing checkpoint and opportunity for extended DIRT)	from Jane	Dracula (reading	describe the sinister setting of The	checkpoint	Gothic Literature: Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, The Werewolf and evaluating ideas (reading checkpoint and extended DIRT opportunity	
				1,			Assessme	ent Weeks	7		7		
Cycle 2	Purple Hibiscus Cold Read (extended comprehensi on Do Nows to gauge under standing)	Purple Hibiscus Cold Read (extended comprehensi on Do Nows to gauge under standing)	Purple Hibiscus Cold Read (extended comprehensi on Do Nows to gauge under standing)	Purple Hibiscus/ Identity Poetry Context	Purple Hibiscus/ Identity Poetry	Purple Hibiscus/ Identity Poetry	Purple Hibiscus/ Identity Poetry	Purple Hibiscus/ Identity Poetry	Purple Hibiscus/ Identity Poetry	Purple Hibiscus/ Identity Poetry	Purple Hibiscus/ Identity Poetry	Purple Hibiscus / Identity Poetry	Purple Hibiscus / Identity Poetry
								3	Assessme	ent Weeks		M	
Cycle 3	Language/ opinion pieces	Language/ opinion pieces	Language/ opinion pieces	Language/ opinion pieces	Language/ opinion piecesAn	Assessment prep	Assessment prep	Assessment prep	Assessment Prep	An Inspector Calls - cold read	An Inspector Calls - Cold Read	An Inspector Calls Context	An Inspector Calls Exposition and Mr Birling



Y10 Long Term Plan

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13
	Induction						Assessme	ent Weeks					
Cycle 1	Student Reinduction An Inspector Calls - recap and plot		•	An Inspector Calls Gerald / Sybil - how is social class portrayed?	An Inspector Calls Eric and male masculinity evaluation	An Inspector Calls The final message and ending	responsibility	Watch Globe	an tragedy. Opening of the play and the weird sisters	relationship between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth	Macbeth Discussing Duncan's murder. How does Lady Macbeth persuade Macbeth to murder Duncan?	Macbeth Banquo and Fleance The dagger speech	murder
Cycle 2		Macbeth Macbeth and Banquo's relationship after Macbeth becomes king	Lady Macbeth's changing relationship	Macbeth The end of the play	Macbeth Essay - DIRT	conflict	Poetry Checking Out Me History. Messy mark and DIRT Comparison of London	Duchess Comparison of MLD and Ozymandias The Emigree	Poetry Comparisons COTLB Bayonet Charge Exposure	Poetry Poppies Kamikaze War Photographe r Remains WCF and DIRT	Poetry The Prelude Storm on the Island	Poetry Catch-up	Poetry - Assessment DIRT
9.5	Language Paper 1 Section A	Language Paper 1 Section A	Language Paper 1 A/B	Language Paper 2 Section A	Language Paper 2 Section A	Language Paper 2 Section B	Language catch-up	AIC Revision Exam: Lit P2 and both Language Papers	AIC Revision Exam: Lit P2	AIC Revision Exam: Lit P2 and both Language Papers	Spoken Language	Spoken Language	Spoken Language



Y11 Long Term Plan

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13
	Induction						Assessme	nt Weeks					
		A Christmas											
		Carol											
		Cold Read	Cold read	Stave 1	Essay	Carol	Mr Fezziwig	Progress	Stave three	Ignorance	Tiny Tim	Stave Five	Assessed
\leftarrow				Scrooge	practice	Stave 2 The	and Belle	check	The Ghost of	and Want	Dichotomy of	The end of it	Piece
Cycle			Context	Fred and	WCF	Ghost of		DIRT	Christmas	Stave 4	Death	God Bless us	DIRT
S				Scrooge	DIRT	Christmas			Present	The Ghost of	Progress	everyone	
				Scrooge's	Marley's	Past			The Cratchits	Christmas	check		
				attitude to	Ghost	Scrooge's			Tiny Tim and	Yet to Come			
				the poo	Ghosts in	childhood			Fred				
					Stave 1	Little Fan							
							Assessme	nt Weeks		1			
7	Revision of all												
Cycle	Language	Language and	Language	Language									
6	and	Literature	and	and									
	Literature		Literature	Literature									
									Assessme	nt Weeks		A	
m	Revision of all												
Cycle	Language	Language	Language	Language	Language	Language							
Š	and	and	and	and	and	and							
	Literature	Literature	Literature	Literature	Literature	Literature							