

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 spoke. 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.
- 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.

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 question how texts enter into the canon and think critically about the differing perspectives presented.

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 use nuanced language to convey moral, spiritual, and political messages with increasing sophistication each year.



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.

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		Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3		
YEAR 7	New learning	the origins of literature and Greek Mythology. Students will encounter a range of myths and early literary concepts that will help to establish a foundational	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 historical orators. This will lead onto discursive writing. Students will also have an introduction to decoding strategies for archaic language and deduction of writers'	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		
	Revisited learning	Revision of comprehension strategies and an introduction to analysis of the writer's craft. Revision of accurate, basic sentence construction and use of figurative language to create effective descriptions inspired by the stories studied	_	A consolidation of writing and grammar from throughout Year 7.		
4	Additional information	Careers Spotlight: Writer (importance of creativity)	Careers Spotlight: Film/Theatre Director (entertainment industry)	Careers Spotlight: Politician/MP (importance of communication)		
YEAR 8	New learning	Literature. Writers' choices of language, structure, and form. Students will explore the core texts of Sherlock Holmes short stories and Oliver Twist. Students will gain a 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 withheld information. Murder mystery narrative writing focusing	Romeo and Juliet. They will explore the concept of Greek Tragedy as a precursor to 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	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.		

R 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 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	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			
YEAR 10	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.	An Inspector Calls and the Power and Conflict poems. Revision of Shakespearean context and Shakespeare's plays. Comprehension strategies and analysis of writer's craft and	Comprehension strategies and analysis of writer's craft and accurate sentence construction		
	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	Language		
YEAR 11	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	Literature and Language			
	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			



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	Induction	Induction	Greek myths,	Origins The Myth of Pandora How is Pandora presented as	Myth of	Malevolent Monsters: The Myth of the Minotaur Evaluating	Monsters / Mythical	Greek Myths: Mythical Heroes What was the Odyssey? The Odyssey 1: Introducing Odysseus	Mythical Heroes The Odyssey 2: Poseidon Describe the	Greek Myths: Mythical Heroes The Odyssey 3: Cyclops Varying sentences	Greek Myths: Mythical Heroes The Odyssey 4: Scylla and Charybdis	Greek Myths: Mythical Heroes Describing images (writing checkpoint)	DIRT and redrafting (writing
						10	Assessme	ent Weeks	,/				Ti.
Cycle 2	The Tempest Context & Story	The Tempest Act 1: Opening, Prospero and Ariel language analysis	ashore,	The Tempest Caliban – victim or villain evaluation		resolution –	The Tempest Evaluation Question & DIRT Tempest Assessment	Rhetoric	History of Rhetoric Ethos: Alexander the Great	Rhetoric	History of Rhetoric Analysing viewpoints: MLK & Kopatcha	History of Rhetoric Rhetorical Writing	History of Rhetoric Rhetorical writing
									Assessme	ent Weeks		1	
Ccycle 3	Narrative Poetry Key features/timeli ne/poetic terminology	Narrative Poetry 'Beowulf': literary context, Comprehensio n, language analysis	Narrative Poetry 'Idylls of the King': literary context, Comprehensio n, language analysis		Narrative Poetry 'The Lion and Albert': literary context, Comprehensio n, language analysis	Assessment Prep	Assessment / revision	Assessment / revision	Tilscher's Class': literary context, Comprehensio	Narrative Poetry – Closing gaps. Descriptive writing: creating imagery/varyin g sentence structures	Johnnie: literary	Key	Narrative Poetry 'Beowulf': literary context, Comprehensio n, language analysis



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	nt Weeks					
Cycle 1	Induction	Induction	Sweeper	Poetry: Suffering: Shelley – analysis of the ballad form in 'A Song;' Browning –	structure in Dharker's 'Living Space.' Descriptive	Poetry: Female voices: analysis of punctuation	Social Justice Poetry: Female voices: analysis of enjambment / symbols in Mushrooms by Plath Viewpoint writing: positive changes to society	Poetry: Colonialism: Linked non- fiction – Mary	Poetry Civil Rights: Carter and Dove: analysis	Poetry Civil Rights: Hughes – analysis of	Poetry Civil Rights: Angelou – analysis of	Social Justice Poetry: Corruption: Niyi Osundare – Analysis of 'Not My Business'	Social Justice Poetry: Writing from a viewpoint (voting) / closing gap
							Assessme	nt Weeks					
Cycle 2	Juliet Conventions of	Juliet Conventions of tragedy/contex	Juliet Prince Escalus' speech language	Romeo and Juliet Romeo's melancholy/ language analysis/patriar chal society NF/ language analysis	Juliet Juliet and the Nurse/Sonnets /	Juliet	Romeo and Juliet Lovers' realisation/ Act	Romeo and Juliet The Balcony Scene: comprehension / language	Juliet Friar Lawrence and Romeo/ The Fight/ comprehension / structural analysis	Juliet Gap Closing/ Grammar Lectures	Romeo and Juliet Romeo's Grief/ comprehension / language analysis/ writing from a viewpoint DIRT on assessment gaps	Animal Farm Cold Read	Animal Farm Cold Read
										ent Weeks			
Ccycle 3	Read text.	Animal Farm / Cold Read Animal Farm Do Now: Comprehensio n and reading		Animal Farm Chapter Two: broken down language analysis/ Chapter 3 evaluation	Animal Farm Chapter Four structural analysis and descriptive writing	Animal Farm Chapter five: language analysis/ Chapter eight retrieval/conte xt	Animal Farm Linked Non- Fiction Summarising viewpoints, summarising the differences in viewpoint	Animal Farm Linked on- Fiction Writing Persuasively		structural analysis/	Animal Farm DIRT: Summarising viewpoints, summarising differences	Animal Farm DIRT: Language Analysis/ Writing persuasively	Closing Gaps



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	-				
Cycle 1	Induction	Induction	The Gothic Genre (quotation explosions), art, conventions — analysis of Mysteries of Udolpho	The Gothic Sublime and architecture; descriptive practice: foreshadowing	The Gothic Poe — Tell-tale Heart Structural analysis / language analysis — tension and mental state	The Gothic The Uncanny; Frankenstein – evaluation. Descriptive writing – using semantic fields	Black – language	characters: The Bloody Chamber –	Adichie Early Life:	'Originally' by Duffy – how is asyndeton used? Language and pride: 'Harlem' by Hughes – how	Rise' by Angelou – how is allusion used? 'The British' by Zephaniah –	adversity: 'Flag' by Agard 'Peace' by Akala – repetition and	Identity Poetry Comparison of poetry – full response.
							Assessme	nt Weeks					
Cycle 2	Purple Hibiscus Section A: Teach: Context Read: Pg3-16 Booklet: Pg9-10	Section A: Read: Pg19-109 Booklet: Pg 11-	Purple Hibiscus Section A: Read: Pg19-109 Booklet: Pg 13- 14 (Papa)	Section B: Read: Pg110-	Section B: Read: Pg110- 205	Purple Hibiscus Section B: Read: Pg110- 205 Booklet: Pg 18 (Mama)	Section C: Read: Pg 206- 253	Section C: Read: Pg 206- 253 Booklet: Pg 19-	Section C: Read: Pg 257- 307 Booklet: Pg 21-	Purple Hibiscus Section C: Read: Pg 257- 307 Booklet: Pg 21- 22 (Analysing Cousins)	Section C: Read: Pg 257- 307 Booklet: Pg 28 (Imaginative	Purple Hibiscus Section D: Themes and Evaluation Booklet: Pg 23- 25	Closing gaps / Section D: Symbolism
							1995		Assessme	nt Weeks			
Ccycle 3	An Inspector Calls – Cold Read		Calls – Big Ideas	Calls – Big Ideas	An Inspector Calls – Big Ideas and Analysis of the play	Calls – Big Ideas	Calls – Big Ideas		Possible Assessments	An Inspector Calls – Big Ideas and Analysis of the play	Calls – Big Ideas		Calls – Big Ideas



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	nt Weeks	1				
Cycle 1	Induction	Induction	An Inspector Calls – knowledge checks / responsive teaching to gaps	An Inspector Calls – big questions and analysis	Calls – big		Macbeth Context; (Cold watch – RSC production) Plot understanding	How are the Witches portrayed?	introduced? Progress check: Macbeth in Act 1	Macbeth Act 1 S5: How is LM introduced? S6-7: How does Shakespeare use rhetoric through LM?	Analysis of 'is this a dagger'. A2S2 - 3	Macbeth Act 3 Scene 1 – Macbeth's fears analysis Act 3 S2-3	Macbeth Act 3 Scene 4 – Analysis of guilt (Banquo's Ghost)
							Assessme	nt Weeks					
Cycle 2	Macbeth Act 3 S5-6 Act 4 S1-2	Macbeth Act 4 S3 — analysis of Kingship Act 5 S1 — Lady Macbeth's guilt	Macbeth	Macbeth Read to end / mop up final gaps		Power and Conflict Poetry – The hubris of tyrants; oppressive societies: London, Ozymandias, COMH	Power and Conflict poetry – Domestic tyranny – My Last Duchess;	Power and Conflict Poetry – Conflict and its representation s: COLB; Bayonet Charge;	Conflict Poetry — ideological and domestic experiences of war: Poppies, Kamikaze, War Photographer, Remains	Conflict Poetry ideological and domestic experiences of war: Poppies, Kamikaze, War Photographer, Remains	Conflict Poetry - Nature's relationship with the human condition:		Language Paper 1
	1				Day tatan	D	Data dial March	Data dial Marah		ent Weeks	D	D	D
Ccycle 3	Language Paper 1	Language Paper 1	Language Paper 1	Language Paper 1	Revision	Revision		Potential Mock Exam Period (Literature revision)	Potential Mock Exam Period (Literature revision)		Conflict Poetry - ideological and domestic experiences of	Conflict Poetry - Nature's	



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	1				
Cycle 1	Induction	Induction	Language Paper 2 Poetry mop up	Language Paper 2 Poetry mop up	Language Paper 2 comparisons - poetry	Language Paper 2 Comparative essays - poetry	Language Paper 2 Spoken Language Assessment (one lesson set		Revision / mock preparation	Lessons after exams: ACC	Lessons after exams: ACC	A Christmas Carol - Cold read	A Christmas Carol L6: ACC big write
							up) Assessme	nt Weeks					
cle 2	A Christmas Carol	A Christmas Carol	A Christmas Carol	Carol	Unseen Poetry Lang P1 Q2,	Unseen Poetry Lang P1 Q4	Revision Macbeth	Revision Macbeth Lang P2 Q2	Revision	Revision	Revision DIRT Lessons	Revision Macbeth	Revision AIC Lang P2 Q4, five
Cycle	ACC Big write	Revision AIC	Revision AIC	Revision AIC	three	Lung 11 Q1	Lang P1 Q5	&four		DIRT Lessons Literature	Language	Lang P2 Q2, Q4	Lang 12 Q 1, mvc
									Assessme	nt Weeks			
Ccycle 3	Revision AIC Lang P2 Q5	Revision P&C Poetry Lang P1 Q5	Revision Macbeth ACC	Revision Lit P1 Macbeth ACC	Revision Lit P2 AIC P&C	Revision Language P1							