

## EPCHS English Department: Year 8 Programme of Study

The overall curriculum is intended to develop a love of English and reading, as well as expose students to different stories and contexts they would not otherwise have considered. We also wish to prepare students for the skills required at GCSE. Consequently, the structure of the curriculum has been designed so that there is clear progress from one year to the next. Each year the units build on the knowledge and understanding gained in the previous year. The intention is that by the time our students reach year 10, they have gained a deep body of knowledge of both literature and language, and developed skills that will enable them to access the GCSE course with confidence.

Year/Term	Unit of Work	Intent
Autumn 1	Iridescent Adolescent	In this unit students will be studying the short story genre and its features. It will enable them to see how texts are structured, which will support their own writing as well as their analysis skills. A focus of this unit is diversity. We want students to understand that the perspective a story is told from, and the ideas within the story, can be very influential and they should be aware of these aspects.
Autumn 2	Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet	Students will study a whole original Shakespeare script introducing concepts and the terminology of tragedy. This unit is building on a previous Unit in Year 7 which looked at humour within his plays. The contrast between humour and tragedy will be studied. This will support an understanding of the different genres within a Shakespearean text leading to The Merchant of Venice in year 9 and GCSE study of Macbeth.
Spring 1	Non Fiction: Speeches that changed the world	This unit will build on forms of spoken language and include the study of rhetoric. It will enable students to identify key features of persuasive writing for a specific purpose and audience and to use them effectively in their own writing. Students will learn to adapt their writing and begin to use ethos, pathos and logos in their own work.
Spring 2	The World's Wife Poetry	This collection was chosen to enable students to engage with different perspectives, particularly women's voices. This will build on their understanding of poetry from the Cultures around the World unit studied in Yr 7 and support them to develop confidence in analysing poetry.

Summer 1 and 2	Literary Heritage: The Hound of the Baskervilles	<p>This text was chosen to enable students to engage with their literary heritage and develop their understanding of genre that began in the Dystopian unit in Y7. This unit enables students to deal with a challenging nineteenth century text, acclimatising them with the language and some of the context of the era.</p> <p>Students will also explore several thematically linked poems in this unit in order to encourage them to make connections across texts, and to develop confidence with analysing unseen poetry.</p>
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