English - Curriculum Overview -SPRING 2027

Year 7	
What are you teaching? Spring 1	**What are you teaching? Spring 2**
Introduction to poetry	Non fiction writing - social media
Why have you chosen to teach this unit, and this time?	
Poetry is a large part of GCSE literature so it is important that students get a grasp of the foundations of poetry in KS3. We look at a range of poetic forms and the conventions that they follow. Students also have the opportunity to produce their own poetry. Students should be able to comment on and explain the impact of the structural features of a poem. Nonfiction writing is a key skill for GCSE and we have a different focus in every year group. The focus in year 7 is on social media. Students read a variety of non fiction texts showing various perspectives and they will use these to produce their own persuasive text.	
What are the 3 key pieces of knowledge you will have expected students to acquire by the end of this unit?	
• The key differences between poetry and prose and how to identify different forms of poetry • Key terminology to comment on structural features of a poem (form, structure, stanza, rhyme, rhythm, couplet, quatrain, iambic pentameter, narrative perspective, ceasura, enjambment) and Vocabulary for exploring form (ballad, dramatic monologue, sonnet, blank verse, acrostic, haiku, ode) • How to choose the best quotation How does it make the reader feel? What is the impact? • The conventions of letter writing and how to structure text using basic discourse markers • To show a clear viewpoint and perspective, • To be able to use basic persuasive devices appropriately (DAFOREST)	
Is this topic on the National Curriculum? Yes **Will all staff be teaching this unit?** Yes	

Year 8	
What are you teaching?Spring 1	**What are you teaching? Spring 2**

War poetry	Non fiction writing - crime and punishment

Why have you chosen to teach this unit, and this time?

Building on basic skills from year 7, this unit explores the context and language features of a poem as well as the structural choices made by the poet. It also links in theme to the poems studied at GCSE (Power and Conflict) and we introduce work by some of the key poets they will study in KS4.

Building on the basic persuasive techniques from year 7, students will produce persuasive texts, giving clear, strong viewpoints linked to the theme of crime and punishment

What are the 3 key pieces of knowledge you will have expected students to acquire by the end of this unit?

- How context has an impact on the writer's choices
- To be able to analyse writer's methods in detail, using appropriate terminology (aural imagery and structural devices such as volta etc) - To use these skills to craft their own poetry

- The conventions of article writing (headline, subheadings)
- Wider range of DAFOREST (emotive language, expert opinion etc) - How to write an effective anecdote

Is this topic on the National Curriculum?

Yes

Will all staff be teaching this unit?

Yes

Year 9	
What are you teaching? Spring 1	**What are you teaching? Spring 2**
Poetry from other cultures	Non fiction writing - speeches

Why have you chosen to teach this unit, and this time?

Poetry is studied over the 3 years at KS3 so that students feel confident when faced with the unseen poems in KS4 (part of their GCSE exam) We aim to teach poetry at the same time across key stages so we can standardise and view progress over key stage 3.

What are the 3 key pieces of knowledge you will have expected students to acquire by the end of this unit?
- How to approach an unseen poem
Is this topic on the National Curriculum? Yes **Will all staff be teaching this unit?** Yes

Year 10	
What are you teaching?Spring 1	**What are you teaching? Spring 2**
Macbeth	Macbeth/ Literature skills focusing on A Christmas Carol /mock prep
Why have you chosen to teach this unit, and this time?	
- This is a key text for the GCSE literature paper 1 exam. It is important that the students know the plot, characters and themes in depth. This will build on their knowledge of Shakespeare from key stage 3. - We also revise A Christmas Carol (the GCSE text that was introduced in year 9) in preparation for the mock exam at the end of year 10	
What are the 3 key pieces of knowledge you will have expected students to acquire by the end of this unit?	
- The contextual factors that impact on Shakespeare's choices. - The conventions of tragedy and a tragic hero (hamartia etc) - The plot, characters and key themes of the play - - How to choose the best quotations and how to analyse methods in depth - How to approach the exam question and plan effectively - How to structure an effective analytical essay	
Is this topic on the National Curriculum? Yes **Will all staff be teaching this unit?** Yes	

Year 11	
What are you teaching? Spring 1	**What are you teaching? Spring 2**
Literature and language revision - exam skills	Literature and language revision - exam skills
Why have you chosen to teach this unit, and this time?	
In preparation for the mock exams in October.November	
What are the 3 key pieces of knowledge you will have expected students to acquire by the end of this unit?	
• The key skills needed for each paper/question • What makes an effective response • Key quotations for literature and how to analyse in depth	
Is this topic on the National Curriculum? Yes **Will all staff be teaching this unit?** Yes	