

Curriculum

Years 7 and 8 follow a programme of study based on the National Curriculum. They study works by Shakespeare and Dickens along with some more contemporary authors as well as looking at Greek Myths.

Year 9 begin their journey towards their AQA Literature GCSE which they will complete in Year 10. They study both their 19th century text and their anthology of poems.

Year 10 will continue their Literature studies and complete the course in the summer exam period. They will then move on to looking at their Speaking and Listening assessment and begin their Language course.

Year 11 will, using the knowledge they have learnt through their Literature studies, begin to tackle the challenges of AQA English Language and be ready for this exam in the summer exam period.

Literacy

We follow the literacy and numeracy focusses of the term.

Staff complete SPAG starters or activities during the lessons.

English at PHS

SEN/Interventions

Teaching assistants are an integral part of our teaching practice in English. Discussions are frequently had with the teaching assistants with assigned students and tasks.

Students are often given printed sheets to support their progress and avoid having to look up at the board too often.

Access to computers is helpful for those students who need this as an access arrangement.

We offer a curriculum that is fluid. Despite having a clear learning journey and an 'ideal' path, we are flexible in our approach. We are always happy to make appropriate adjustments to suit the needs of our pupils.

We offer patience, a calm environment and routine.

Assessment

All students are formally assessed termly however our English teachers mark frequently with the intention to pick up any misconceptions.

KS3

Assessments follow the same format as an OCR Entry Level with some GCSE style questions. This is so the majority of students in Year 8 are able to complete an Entry Level.

KS4

We use both past GCSE papers from AQA Literature and Language and papers that we have written.

Speaking and Listening assessments

Most Students will complete an official AQA Speaking and Listening assessment in Year 10. As of 2024, we will be weaving in opportunities for students to complete Speaking and Listening assessments in Key Stage Three.

Rationale

The curriculum is designed to enable students to interact with the world around them and to communicate effectively.

Through their learning, students will be exposed to challenging language and writing skills which will better prepare them for the wider world.

We have selected texts carefully to try to encourage a love of reading and to excite them. The texts are also selected to inspire students with their own writing skills. Students are given opportunities to practice their oracy and fluency.

We want our students to have a sense of success in English and so they are given three opportunities to gain a qualification through Entry Level, Literature and Language.

Staffing

Hannah Daniel: subject lead and English teacher to Year 7-11 with a responsibility for curriculum offer.

Sian MacArthur: English teacher to Year 7-11 with a responsibility for Entry Level.

Ana Ronchi: English teacher to Year 7-11 with a responsibility for online teaching.

Subject enrichment and Personal Development

Key Stage Three are offered opportunities to enter Young Writers competitions and celebrate their achievements.

Opportunities to join an Enrichment creative writing activity on a Wednesday afternoon.

For Year 11, revision lunch times are offered nearer to their exams.