



St Benedict's Catholic School

The Catholic Secondary School for West Suffolk

ENGLISH CURRICULUM GUIDE

Year 7

Autumn Taught Content

- **About Me:** a short introductory unit about biographies.
- **Heroes and Villains:** a thematic unit that lays the foundations for reading and writing skills, using fiction extracts to look at how writers use language and structure, as well as developing students' skills of creative writing.
- **Modern Novel – *Trash*:** introduces the skills of studying a complete novel through looking at its language, form and structure, as well as exploring themes and context.

Spring Taught Content

- **Inspirational Figures:** students explore the argumentative techniques used in speeches, then use these techniques in their own speeches and writing.
- **Introduction to Poetry:** students explore how to analyse poetry and then apply what they learn in the study of poetry to their own writing of protest poems and use this in performance.

Summer Taught Content

- **Shakespeare in Context:** students are gain an understanding of the context of Elizabethan theatre, the conventions of a play and the different genres of comedy, tragedy and history, as well as build on their knowledge of poetry when looking at some of Shakespeare's sonnets
- **Travel Writing:** builds on from the skills of analysing non-fiction extracts when students studied speeches. It also provides a specific focus for practising writing for a particular purpose and audience.

Assessment

Students have two formal assessments per year, which cover the content that has been taught up to that point. Students will also regularly practise in class the skills necessary to improve in English.

Homework Expectations

Students are expected to read regularly as part of the Accelerated Reader program that is run in school. In addition, there are regular spelling and comprehension tests of Tier 2 Vocabulary and activities linked to the texts being studied in class. Students will also plan, prepare and practise a Speaking and Listening presentation to be delivered in-class during the course of the year.

Reading List

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Heroes and Villains Cherub Series – <i>Robert Muchamore</i> H.I.V.E. Series – <i>Mark Walden</i> Alex Rider Series – <i>Anthony Horowitz</i> Murder Most Unladylike Series – <i>Robin Stevens</i> Series of Unfortunate Events – (series) <i>Lemony Snicket</i> The Borrowers – <i>Mary Norton</i> The Little White Horse – <i>Elizabeth Goudge</i>	Inspirational Figures Malala, the girl who stood up for education and changed the world- <i>Malala Yousafzai</i> Planet Greta – <i>Emily Stead</i> Hidden Figures – <i>Margot Lee Shetterley</i> Protest Poetry Words That Burn Lend Me Your Wings – <i>John Agard</i> Life Doesn't Frighten Me at All – <i>John Agard</i> Laughter is an Egg – <i>John Agard</i> Talking Turkeys – <i>Benjamin Zephaniah</i>	Travel Writing Gulliver's Travels – <i>Jonathan Swift</i> Kensuke's Kingdom – <i>Michael Morpurgo</i>

Extra and Super Curricular Opportunities

- BAM – Bennie's Arts Magazine
- Debate Club
- Culture Club
- Creative Writing Club
- Key Stage 3 Reading Group
- Internal and external writing competitions