



# 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.
- **Myths:** students explore how stories are structured at paragraph, sentence and word level, as well as developing their own written style
- **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 poems and use this in performance.
- **Free Writing:** Fortnightly stand-alone writing based on a variety of stimuli.

#### Spring Taught Content

- **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.
- **Inspirational Figures:** students explore the argumentative techniques used in speeches, then use these techniques in their own speeches and writing.
- **Free Writing:** Fortnightly stand-alone writing based on a variety of stimuli.

#### Summer Taught Content

- **Shakespeare in Context:** students 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.
- **Free Writing:** Fortnightly stand-alone writing based on a variety of stimuli.

#### 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. Furthermore, as part of the Accelerated Reader program that is run in school, those students who do read outside the classroom can prove their progress in reading skills by taking targeted quizzes based on their reading. Regular spelling and comprehension tests of Tier 2 Vocabulary, and activities linked to the texts being studied in class are also opportunities to display knowledge gleaned from home learning. 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
<b>Myths</b> <b>Tales from Africa</b> by K.P. Kojo <b>Tales from the Caribbean</b> by Trish Cooke <b>Asha &amp; the Spirit Bird</b> by Jasbinder Bila <b>Roman Mysteries</b> by Caroline Lawrence <b>The Island at the End of Everything</b> by Kiran Millwood Hargrave <b>The House with Chicken Legs</b> by Sophie Anderson <b>Riddle of the Runes</b> by Janina Ramirez <b>Percy Jackson</b> series by Rick Riordan	<b>Inspirational Figures</b> Malala, the girl who stood up for education and changed the world- <i>Malala Yousafzai</i> <i>Planet Greta</i> – Emily Stead <i>Hidden Figures</i> – Margot Lee Shetterley  <b>Protest Poetry</b> <i>Words That Burn</i> <i>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	<b>Travel Writing</b> <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> – Jonathan Swift <i>Kensuke's Kingdom</i> – Michael Morpurgo <i>The Cay</i> – Theodore Taylor

## Extra and Super Curricular Opportunities

- Debate Club
- Reading Group
- Performing Shakespeare competition
- Internal and external writing competitions