



St Benedict's Catholic School

Developing Wisdom, Compassion and Resilience
through Prayer and Work

English Department Curriculum Guide

Year 8

Curriculum

Autumn	Spring	Summer
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Festivals: focuses on the skills of writing to argue.• Modern Novel - <i>The Bone Sparrow</i>: develops students' analysis skills and explores characters and themes as well as the influence of context on a text.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Media Advertising: explores how language is used in the modern/real world to influence us.• A Midsummer Night's Dream or The Tempest: develops the skills of how to study a play by Shakespeare.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 19th Century Lives: practises analysing skills using extracts from 19th Century fiction and non-fiction.• Poetry: A Journey Through Life: develops skills of how to analyse poetry.

Assessment & Homework

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.

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 activities linked to the texts and topics being studied in class are also opportunities to display knowledge gleaned from home learning.

Resources

It is recommended that students make use of the school library which is open before and after school and during break and lunchtimes. In addition, students can access the resources for their lessons and knowledge organisers on their class notebook in OneNote. There are also reading lists for each term, which provide ideas for how students can expand their appreciation of the texts that are being studied in class.

Extra and Super Curricular Opportunities

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