



St Benedict's Catholic School

The Catholic Secondary School for West Suffolk

ENGLISH CURRICULUM GUIDE 2016

Year 9 Autumn Term

Students will continue the KS3 curriculum, developing the study undertaken in Years 7 and 8, beginning in Year 9 with a unit of work titled 'The Voices of War' This unit develops their understanding of how people communicate their feelings about what is happening to them under difficult circumstances whilst also showing us how persuasive this writing can be. The students will study a range of text types across the eras including poetry, speeches and diary entries. They will be assessed through the writing of an essay comparing two studied texts where they will explain the effectiveness of the language chosen.

Following on from this, the students will undertake the study of a Shakespeare text, specifically focusing on the characters involved. In preparation for their GCSE study in Year 10, the students will be asked to undertake a more critical analysis of the text and be able to discuss their findings in some depth.

During these units, as with all units across KS3, students will also have specific lessons and tasks covering particular relevant areas of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Speaking and Listening activities take place throughout the year.

Cognitive Acceleration lessons are embedded within the curriculum at KS3.

Students will be encouraged to continue reading for pleasure alongside their study in class.

Assessment:

The department operates a policy of continuous assessment with students' targets reviewed and updated regularly. Tasks may be produced under controlled conditions in class time with the levels awarded contributing to the year's overall Teacher Assessment.

English department policy is that **homework** should evolve from and support work in class. Tasks may be research, reading or writing.

Year 9 Spring Term

The second term will begin with the students reading a modern novel, again studying the author in depth and further developing their understanding and ability to discuss and write about narrative conventions and themes within the text.

A variety of text types will be covered with a focus on the students' ability to critically evaluate the writer's purposes and viewpoints, and the overall effect on the reader of particular techniques used. There is also great scope to develop the students' creative abilities using the characters from the text as a stimulus.

The term concludes with a unit of study relating to the media around us – specifically for Year 9, the study of advertising. This will develop the students' understanding of non-fiction text types including the art of persuasion alongside the development of their ability to argue and advise.

Year 9 Summer Term

The summer term for Year 9 will begin with a unit entitled 'Worlds beyond and fantasy worlds' which involves a study of Science Fiction and fantasy writing addressing the need for students to cover a wide range of genres in their reading at KS3.

Students will analyse the structure of the writings and be given the opportunity to produce their own piece of creative writing based on their study of the genres.

Leading on from this the students will finish the year with the study of a modern drama text which will allow them to develop their understanding of how different stagings allow for different interpretations of texts.