

Key Stage 3 English Policy

Overview

Our Key Stage 3 English provision is highly flexible. Most of our children are on the roll of a mainstream school or other alternative or specialist provider. We are committed to providing students with opportunities to access their entitlement to a full and challenging curriculum in partnership with their fulltime educational provider. Where we are providing specific students with supplementary interventions in collaboration with their mainstream or other full-time educational placement we will focus on those aspects of the National Curriculum identified for us by the schools as being of the most benefit to the student. Where our students are – temporarily – not on the roll of a full-time provider, we are committed to providing a bespoke curriculum covering the key curriculum areas of reading and writing and speaking and listening, according to the needs of each student which will enable them to integrate into their new education setting as seamlessly as possible. This programme will be in line with that experienced by their peers in mainstream education. The ultimate purpose and aim of our curriculum is to prepare students for their Key Stage 4 experience and thus their post 16 education, training and employment. Progression in reading, writing (to include grammar and vocabulary) and speaking and listening at Key Stage 3 will be assessed in line with the National Curriculum attainment targets. We expect students to make excellent progress towards achieving the National Curriculum targets, taking into account their starting point.

English at Key Stage 3 is delivered in the way that best suits the needs of the individual student. Teachers provide students with the paths through the National Curriculum programme of study that is right for them. A thematic and concentric approach underpins our planning: through the use of modern texts and texts from our literary heritage we can help students develop the reading skills they need, and these can be used to inspire writing tasks and speaking and listening work that meet National Curriculum requirements.

Through our Key Stage 3 English Curriculum, we intend to promote a love of the English language and literary heritage from across the world. By encouraging a passion for reading, writing and speaking, we aim to broaden students' minds; to enable them to fulfil their right to become culturally, emotionally, socially and spiritually intelligent members of society.

Impact

Key Stage 3 content and sequencing for most students is led by a student's mainstream provider to focus on those aspects of the National Curriculum identified by them as being of the most benefit to the student. Content and sequencing for other students is led by an initial assessment of their needs and is underpinned by a consideration of integration into their new educational setting.

English at Key Stage 3 aims to provide all students with a varied, yet flexible programme of learning opportunities to enable them to attain their highest possible level of literacy and oracy.

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Where appropriate or required by the Home School, English will be assessed once per term to reflect the assessment objectives that have been covered that term. In addition, students' progress will be reviewed half-terminally, using our bespoke Student Assessment Tracker. This will be used to identify areas for development in each student's skills.

We expect that our students will make excellent progress in each of the fundamental areas of study depending on the needs and abilities of each student. This is not the sole aim of our curriculum, however; we are committed to extending students beyond the classroom in English to enhance and develop creativity, exploration of the imaginary world, develop their oracy skills and, most importantly, increase self-awareness and confidence.

English and the wider curriculum

In English, students are supported, encouraged and shown that they can - and are expected to - succeed. Ideas about fairness and equality will be discussed through the majority of the literature texts, inspiring students to think about their own rights, responsibilities and values as members of society.

The overarching vision for English for our Outreach provision at Key Stage 3 is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with effective reading skills to assist in all aspects of their lives, including, eventually, further education, training and employment. We also intend students to finish Key Stage 3 with a strong command of the spoken and written language, so they become effective communicators in the wider world and are fully prepared to access the KS4 curriculum, not just in English but in all their subjects.