

Curriculum Intent

- The National Curriculum for English aims to ensure that all children:
- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage
- write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences
- use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas
- are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate

At Hope High School, we believe that the ability to be literate and to communicate effectively through Speaking and Listening, Reading and Writing is fundamental to improving the life chances of our learners. We are committed to ensuring our pupils become active learners of society by becoming conversant and fluent in all areas of language development. We are dedicated to ensuring pupils enjoy their English lessons and develop a genuine love of literature. English Language provides the main instrument to learning throughout the curriculum and the English department is wholly committed to ensuring all our pupils reach their full potential in a safe, calm and nurturing environment.

'Oh, the places you will go' is our key quote within the English department. Starting in KS3, pupils will journey through time whilst sat in our lovely classrooms! To the Gothics with Mary Shelley's Frankenstein; to Flanders Fields with conflict poetry; to Shakespearean England and across the continent exploring the literature of other cultures. To Dickensian England and the into the future with the exciting world of Dystopian fiction. In KS4, pupils will have access to Functional Skills Level One and Two alongside AQA GCSE English Language examinations. Our lovely pupils will build on the knowledge they have acquired in KS3 to continue their progress and enjoy.

Empathy is at the heart of our selected texts. Promoting empathy through reading about other cultures, histories and societies, will help improve our pupils' social skills and allow them to understand how others are feeling. Speaking and listening skills are encouraged throughout with debates set every half-term. We believe our curriculum is a journey, a journey where pupils will enjoy and explore but most importantly grow as a learner and person.