

KS3 English - Subject Yearly Overview - 2025-26

	TOPIC	COMPONENT	<i>Notes: Why are you delivering this topic at this time of year?</i>
Autumn 1	Journeys – Real and Imagined	Focus: Fiction (Stories and Poems), Non-Fiction (Travel Writing), Reflective Writing	Thorough study of journeys reveals that a journey is much more than just movement from one place to another. Journeys are about learning and growth, and they have the potential to teach people about themselves and the society in which they live. An Imaginative Journey is one in which the individual doesn't in fact have to go anywhere in the physical sense. The physical journey is replaced by an expedition that is fuelled by the human capacity to imagine. Imaginative Journeys create endless possibilities. They can offer an escape from the realities of life, and are frequently used to comment on social or human traits and characteristics.
Autumn 2	Myths and Legends	Focus: Fiction (Traditional Stories), Creative Writing, Cultural stories, performance,	This module introduces learners to myths and legends from different cultures, exploring themes of good versus evil and the lessons they teach. Through imaginative storytelling, learners develop creativity, critical thinking, and rich vocabulary, while engaging with symbolic language and cultural traditions. Activities encourage writing, discussion, and performance, providing a fun, interactive way to understand history, values, and the power of storytelling.
Spring 1	Exploring 'The Incident of the Dog in the Night Night-time' by Mark Haddon	Focus: Fiction (Novel Study), Creative Writing, Empathy and Emotional Literacy. Reading.	This module engages SEND learners with <i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i> , exploring storytelling from unique perspectives. Learners develop empathy and emotional literacy by understanding characters' thoughts and feelings. Creative writing tasks encourage expression of ideas and personal responses, while discussion and analysis build comprehension, critical thinking, and vocabulary. Activities provide a supportive, engaging way to connect with literature and human experiences.
Spring 2	Voices of the Future – Sci-Fi and Fantasy	Focus: Fiction (Characterisation), Narrative Writing, Non-Fiction (Biographies/Author	This module encourages KS3 SEND learners to explore imaginative worlds through science fiction and fantasy, developing creativity, characterisation, and narrative skills. By engaging with stories like <i>Doctor Who</i> , <i>Manga</i> and <i>The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</i> , learners can connect with exciting ideas while practising writing, reading, and

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		Studies), Creativity & Imagination, Empathy and Perspective.	storytelling. Studying futuristic worlds fosters problem-solving, empathy, and confidence, allowing learners to express their own ideas and explore possibilities beyond everyday experiences.
Summer 1	Legends in Sport and achievement	Focus: Non-Fiction (News Articles, Advertisements, etc.) Real-life heroes, narrative writing, reporting, Facts vs. Opinion. Public Speaking.	This unit celebrates real-life heroes, allowing KS3 SEND learners to explore inspiring achievements while developing key English skills. Learners will research famous achievers, write biographies, and create match reports or recount memorable sporting moments. Through these activities, they will practise narrative writing, sequencing, and writing for purpose, while building empathy and confidence in public speaking. The unit provides an engaging, motivating way to connect literacy with real-world stories of determination and success.
Summer 2	Exploring 'Skellig' by David Almond	Focus: Fiction Analysis, Creative Writing, Empathy and Emotional Literacy. Reading. Symbolism and Imagery.	Studying <i>Skellig</i> helps learners develop reading comprehension, creativity, and critical thinking. The novel encourages empathy and emotional understanding by exploring friendship, family challenges, and personal growth. Its rich imagery and symbolism allow SEND learners to practise interpreting meaning and expressing ideas, while creative writing tasks build confidence and self-expression. Overall, the novel provides an engaging, imaginative way to connect literacy skills with real-life experiences and emotions.