

## KS3 English - Yearly Overview 2024-25

Subject:	TOPIC	COMPONENT	<i>Notes: Why are you delivering this topic at this time of year?</i>
Autumn 1	Journeys – Real and Imagined	<b>Focus:</b> 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	<b>Focus:</b> Fiction (Traditional Stories), Creative Writing	To provide a window into different cultures and their values, help develop critical thinking skills by exploring complex themes of good vs. evil, foster creativity through imaginative storytelling, and enrich vocabulary by introducing rich language and symbolism, all while providing a fun and engaging way to learn about history and the world around them.
Spring 1	Exploring 'A Monster Calls' by Patrick Ness	<b>Focus:</b> Fiction (Novel Study), Creative Writing, Empathy and Emotional Literacy	"A Monster Calls" is studied because it offers a powerful and nuanced exploration of grief, allowing readers to delve into complex emotions like anger, denial, and acceptance, all while being presented through a compelling narrative with a fantastical element, making it particularly valuable for young adults grappling with difficult life experiences like loss of a loved one; the book also highlights the importance of storytelling as a coping mechanism and the power of facing difficult truths, making it a rich text for discussions about resilience and emotional processing.

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Spring 2	Exploring Heroes and Villains	Focus: Fiction (Characterisation), Non-Fiction (Biographies), Narrative Writing	Heroes may be admired for their physical strength or bravery in the face of danger, or for their selflessness and willingness to put the needs of others before their own. They may also be seen as role models or inspirations, and may be celebrated for their positive impact on the world or the people around them. Villains challenge the notion of good and evil, prompting us to consider the motivations behind their actions. Engaging with stories featuring heroes and villains provides an escape from everyday life.
Summer 1	Create Your Own Magazine	Focus: Non-Fiction (News Articles, Advertisements, etc.), Persuasive Writing, Fact vs. Opinion.	Creating your own magazine is a highly valuable unit for English students, as it encourages creativity, collaboration, and a practical application of language skills in a real-world format. Throughout the process, students engage with a range of writing styles—such as editorials, features, interviews, and reviews—developing their ability to adapt tone, purpose, and structure for different audiences. They also refine their editing, proofreading, and research skills while learning how to present ideas clearly and persuasively. By combining visual design with written content, this unit deepens students’ understanding of how language and layout work together to engage readers, making it a dynamic and enriching way to build confidence in both written and verbal communication.
Summer 2	Travel the World	Focus: Fiction (Short Stories), Non-Fiction (Articles and Reports), Descriptive Writing	Studying the world through the lens of English allows for a deeper understanding and appreciation of the environment by enabling nuanced language use to describe travel, ecosystems, biodiversity, different cultures and environmental issues, promoting environmental literacy, and encouraging responsible stewardship through thoughtful communication and critical analysis