English: The Birchwood Way

The Curriculum Journey

Year	HT1	HT2	HT3	HT4	НТ5	НТ6		
7 Self and identity	Year 7 is based upon the over-arching theme of self and identity. Within this, we consider how writers explore ideas about kindness, integrity, tolerance and prejudice. We encourage our students to ask questions about themselves, their relationships and their place in the world. Year 7 students enhance their critical reading skills and their writing skills whilst building on their primary experience.							
	Modern novel: 'My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece'		Classic novel: 'Great Expectations'	Classic novel and descriptive writing		Shakespeare play and viewpoint writing		
	Learning question: can I understand how writers use different descriptive techniques to engage their reader?	Learning question: can I understand how identity and relationships are explored in 'My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece' and a range of poetry?	Learning question: can I understand how struggles with identity and relationships are explored in 'Great Expectations'?	Learning question: can I understand how writers create powerful characters and settings?	understand how Shakespeare presents conflict in identity	Learning question: can I understand can I understand different techniques speakers and writers use to persuade?		
Key knowledge	'My Sister Lives in the Mantelpiece' vocabulary list. Subject terminology: context, narrative perspective, protagonist. Literary techniques: metaphor, motif, personification, simile. Word classes. Sentence structures.	line, mood, speaker, stanza. Poetic techniques: imagery;	Subject terminology:	'Great Expectations' vocabulary list. Subject terminology: narrative arc, 'show, not tell'. Structural techniques: exposition, rising action, climax/dilemma, falling action, resolution. Word classes. Sentence structures.	Dream' vocabulary list. Subject terminology: dramatic irony, comedy, farce, parody, pun, rhyming couplet.	'A Midsummer Night's Dream' vocabulary list. Subject terminology: Persuasion, point of view, line of argument. Language techniques: alliteration, direct address, emotive language, facts, opinions, rhetorical questions, statistics. Structural techniques: discourse markers, effective openings, topic sentences. Word classes. Sentence structures.		
Building and revisiting	We use the novel as a way of encouraging students to consider key questions about culture and identity such as 'Who am I?' and 'What are my values?'. We consider issues around prejudice,	developing their critical reading skills, building on their learning from KS2.	We continue to explore the theme of self and identity through 'Great Expectations', using the novel to consider our place in society and how we navigate the world around us. Students explore the social		Expectations', we progress to our Shakespeare play and consider how characters struggle to assert themselves and define their identity in	springboard for persuasive speaking and writing, building		

	building on students' learning from KS2. Students practise planning, drafting, editing and	some poetry linked to identity and remind students of poetic techniques. We reinforce core knowledge on the KO and revisit the vocabulary acquired in HT1.	novel. Students develop their	core knowledge on the KO and revisit the vocabulary acquired in HT3.	conventions of Shakespeare's comedies and consider how Shakespeare was influenced	structural techniques for writing persuasively. We reinforce core knowledge on the KO and revisit the vocabulary acquired in HT5.
Assessment	RAP: Descriptive writing based on personal experience. Descriptive writing based on setting.		vocabulary and creative writing. RAP: Analysis of character in an	RAP: Creative writing: A Strange Place. Creative writing: Danger!	Analysis of character in an extract.	Year 7 KAST 2: knowledge, vocabulary and reading critically. RAP: Persuasive speaking based on identity.
Year	HT1	HT2	НТ3	HT4	нт5	НТ6

8 Conflict	Year 8 is centred upon the theme of conflict. We consider how writers from different times and contexts have explored this theme, from characters experiencing inner conflict the effects of war upon individuals and society. We encourage discussion about compassion, morality and injustice. Year 8 students continue to develop their critical reading writing skills as they progress from Year 7. Each half term, we layer new knowledge and vocabulary over core Year 7 knowledge and vocabulary so that students repeatedly reprior learning.						
	Modern novel: 'The Book Thief' and creative writing	Modern novel	Classic literature: the Gothic tradition	Conflict poetry	Conflict poetry Shakespeare play: 'Romeo and Juliet'	Shakespeare play and viewpoint writing	
		Learning question: can I understand how Zusak explores different types of conflict in 'The Book Thief'?	Learning question: can I understand how writers use the different conventions of the Gothic genre?	Learning question: can I understand how different poets explore aspects of conflict across a range of poems and contexts?	Learning question: can I understand Shakespeare's messages about the effects of conflict in 'Romeo and Juliet'?	Learning question: can I understand how to structure an effective persuasive text?	
Key knowledge	list. Subject terminology: retrieval of core terms from Year 7.	'The Book Thief' vocabulary list. Subject terminology: antagonist, chronological/ non-chronological, frame narrative Literary techniques: foreshadowing, imagery, symbolism.	Gothic literature and conflict poetry vocabulary list. Subject terminology: antihero, suspense, tension; retrieval of core terms from Year 7. Literary techniques: pathetic fallacy; retrieval of core terms from Year 7. Structural techniques: flashback, flashforward; retrieval of core terms from Year 7. Word classes. Sentence structures.	Gothic literature and conflict poetry vocabulary list. Subject terminology: persona, tone; retrieval of core terms from Year 7. Poetic techniques: enjambment, juxtaposition, refrain; retrieval of core terms from Year 7.	'Romeo and Juliet' vocabulary list. Subject terminology: foil, monologue, soliloquy, tragedy, prologue, sonnet. Literary techniques: oxymoron, retrieval of core terms from Year 7.	'Romeo and Juliet' vocabulary list. Subject terminology: persona, retrieval of core terms from Year 7. Language techniques: anecdote, hyperbole, repetition; retrieval of core terms from Year 7. Structural techniques: counter argument, short sentences; retrieval of core terms from Year 7. Word classes. Sentence structures.	
Building and revisiting	encouraging students to consider key questions for Year 8, such as 'How does war affect the individual?' and 'How does it affect humanity?' We consider issues such as duality and bravery. We also consider the power of books to inspire, comfort and save. The novel	historical context of 1940s Nazi Germany, and Zusak's intentions behind his novel. Students begin to craft more developed responses to questions. We reinforce core knowledge on the KO and revisit the vocabulary	Students read extracts from pre-20 th century novels, focusing on how conflict manifests itself in individuals in different ways. Students learn about conventions of the Gothic genre and use this as a basis for narrative writing. We introduce some new subject terminology, literary and structural techniques, and a new vocabulary list.	We study a range of poems united by the theme of conflict. We introduce students to more poetic techniques and encourage them to compare poems. We revisit the vocabulary acquired in HT3.	We use our study of 'Romeo and Juliet' to reflect upon the victims and consequences of conflict. We consider how characters struggle with fate and the constraints of the world in which they live. Students explore further dramatic devices and conventions of Shakespeare's tragedies and consider how Shakespeare reflects contemporary ideas about	explore further persuasive techniques and structural techniques for building a convincing argument. We reinforce core knowledge on the KO and revisit the vocabulary acquired in HT5.	

	students' learning from Year 7. We encourage students to think about what a writer is trying to suggest or create whenever they read a text, and to make thoughtful choices about how they can engage their reader whenever they write. We introduce new language techniques and vocabulary.				masculinity and patriarchy . We introduce a new vocabulary list and revisit previous core vocabulary from HT1/2 and HT3/4.	
Assessment	RAP: Narrative writing using the novel as stimulus. Narrative writing based on the theme of bravery.	RAP: Analysis of the writer's use of language in an extract. Analysis of a theme in an extract and the novel as a whole.	Year 8 KAST 1: knowledge, vocabulary and creative writing. RAP: Creative writing: Gothic genre.	RAP: Poetry: analysis of a chosen poem. Poetry: comparison of two poems.	Analysis of a character in the opening scenes of the play.	Year 8 KAST 2: knowledge, vocabulary and reading critically. RAP: Persuasive speaking based on conflict.

Year	HT1	HT2	НТ3	HT4	НТ5	НТ6		
9 Power	n Year 9, we explore power as a concept and link to students' earlier exploration of identity and conflict. By studying voices from very different times and contexts, we consider how and why people exert power over others. We consider the effects of inequality, corruption and tyranny. We also consider how knowledge can be used to empower as well as manipulate individuals. As the year progresses and students move towards GCSE, they deepen their understanding of literary traditions and genres, and critical reading and writing skills. Each half term, we layer new knowledge and vocabulary over previous knowledge and vocabulary acquisition from Years 7 and 8 so that students repeatedly revisit prior earning.							
	Modern novel: 'Animal Farm'	Modern novel and persuasive writing	Shakespeare play: 'Othello'	' ' ' '	Powerful Voices and creative writing	Powerful Voices and viewpoint writing		
	Orwell is critical of power in	Learning question: can I understand how to craft a convincing and persuasive argument?	Learning question: can I understand how Shakespeare explores ideas about power and powerlessness in 'Othello'?	understand how and why Othello changes and his role as a tragic hero?	understand how writers explore power and powerlessness across a range	Learning question: can I understand how writers explore power and powerlessness across a range of genres and contexts?		
Key knowledge	Subject terminology: allegory, allusion, cyclical structure, dystopia, foil, rhetoric, satire. Literary techniques: pathetic fallacy, pathos, semantic field	list. Subject terminology: retrieval of core terms from Years 7 and 8. Language techniques: allusion, imperative, inclusive pronouns, modal	'Othello' vocabulary list. Subject terminology: fatal flaw, Jacobean tragedy, tragic hero; retrieval of core terms from Years 7 and 8. Literary techniques: pathos, semantic field; retrieval of lcore terms from Years 7 and 8.	and 8. Language techniques: pathetic fallacy, semantic field; retrieval of core terms	Retrieval of all core KS3	'Powerful Voices' vocabulary list. Retrieval of all core KS3 knowledge and vocabulary.		
Building and revisiting	surrounding 'Animal Farm' and engage with Orwell's ideas and messages about power. We consider how Orwell's writing exposes tyranny and humanity's tendency to exploit and	Using our novel as a springboard, students explore further persuasive techniques and structural techniques for creating a convincing and sustained argument. We encourage students to write with a specific audience in mind and to make deliberate and	We use our study of 'Othello' to understand how and why people disempower others. Again, we reflect on how – in a very different context – knowledge and language can be manipulated to achieve power over others. We assess how Shakespeare represents attitudes to people from	Shakespearean tragedy. We consider Othello as a tragic hero. We also use the play as a stimulus for creative writing, building on students' learning from previous years.	range of different voices and genres from very different contexts. We read extracts from novels, short stories, poetry, essays, speeches and non-fiction, and we practise a range of skills from critical reading to academic, creative	such as William Blake, Edgar Allan Poe, Susan Hill, Carol Ann Duffy and Rupi Kaur and we introduce students to		

key questions for Year 9, such as how and why people exer power over others. We also consider the power of knowledge and language — how they can be a tool for good but also great harm. Students begin to craft more independent and developed responses to essay question and see texts as conscious constructs — as vehicles for writers to express thoughts, concerns and warnings about society. We introduce new language techniques and vocabulary.	t they can engage them. We reinforce core knowledge on the KO and revisit the vocabulary acquired in HT2.	different cultures and explore beliefs and prejudice in the Jacobean era. Students explore further dramatic devices and concepts - such as the malcontent character type and Machiavellianism. We build on the essay writing skills introduced in HT1 and we introduce a new vocabulary list.		list but also revisit core vocabulary from Years 7 to	core knowledge on the KO and revisit the vocabulary acquired in HT5, as well as all KS3 knowledge and vocabulary.
Assessment Analysis of how the writer uses a specific character in a extract. Analysis of how the writer develops ideas about power in an extract and the novel a a whole.	Persuasive writing based on a topic of students' own	RAP:	presents a specific character in an extract and the play as a whole. Analysis of how and why the writer presents changes in a		Year 9 KAST 2: knowledge, vocabulary and reading critically. RAP: Persuasive speaking based on power.

Year	HT1	HT2	НТ3	НТ4	НТ5	НТ6
Each half term, \	we layer new knowledge and v	ocabulary over previous knov	vledge and vocabulary acquisiti	on from KS3 so that students r	repeatedly revisit prior learning	Ţ.
	English Literature: 'A Christmas Carol'		English Literature: 'Power and conflict' poetry	English Literature: 'Power and conflict' poetry	English Literature: 'Macbeth'	English Literature: 'Macbeth'
	English Language: Paper 2	English Language: Paper 2	English Language: Paper 2	English Language: Paper 2		English Literature: unseen poetry
	Learning question: can I understand how Dickens uses his novel to voice his criticisms about Victorian society?	understand Dickens' purpose and intentions behind Scrooge's	Learning question: can I understand how poets communicate ideas about war and power in poems from different contexts?	Learning question: can I understand how poets communicate ideas about memory, nature and identity in poems from different contexts?	ases mis play to remeet the	Learning question: can I understand Shakespeare's purpose and intentions behind Macbeth's downfall in 'Macbeth'?
	century novel Section B - 'A Christmas Carol': Vocabulary list, text, context, characters, themes. Retrieval of previous terminology and techniques, and the teaching of key terms such as allegory and morality tale. Introduction to English Language Paper 1 style questions. English Language Paper 2 – Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives Section A - reading: Vocabulary list. Retrieval of previous terminology and techniques.		English Literature Paper 2 – Modern texts and poetry Section B - 'Power and conflict poetry': Vocabulary list, poems, contexts, ideas and themes, links. Retrieval of previous terminology and techniques, and the teaching of key terms such as assonance, extended metaphor and caesura.		English Literature Paper 1 – Shakespeare and the 19 th century novel Section A - 'Macbeth': Vocabulary list, text, context, characters, themes. Retrieval of previous terminology and techniques, and the teaching of key terms such as hamartia and hubris. Introduction to English Language Paper 1 style questions.	
			English Language Paper 2 – Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives Section A – reading and Section B – writing. Vocabulary list. Retrieval of previous terminology and techniques, and the teaching of key terms such as irony and bigger ideas such as altruism. Creating a convincing persuasive text. (Revisit HT1 and HT2).		English Literature Paper 2 – Modern texts and poetry Section C - Unseen poetry (revisiting HT3 and HT4) s	
revisiting	Critical reading skills. Literal and inferential comprehension. Evaluation of writers' language choices. Writing effectively about literature: academic essay writing skills.				English Literature: Critical reading skills. Literal and inferential comprehension. Evaluation of writers' language choices. Writing effectively about literature: academic essay writing skills.	
	English Language:		English Language:			

	Critical reading and comprehe Summary and synthesis. Evaluation of writers' languag Comparing how writers comm perspectives.	e.	Critical reading and comprehension. Summary and synthesis. Evaluation of writers' language. Comparing how writers communicate their viewpoints and perspectives. Writing for impact.			
Assessment	RAP: How does Dickens present Scrooge as an outsider at the start of the novella?	RAP: How does Dickens use the ghosts to help Scrooge change his attitudes and behaviour?	RAP: Year 10 KAST 1: English Literature – 'A Christmas Carol'.	RAP: Comparison of two named poems.	RAP: How does Shakespeare present the relationship between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth in the play so far?	RAP: Year 10 KAST 2: English Literature - 'Macbeth' and 'Power and conflict' poetry.
	How has Dickens explored ideas about change and transformation in the novel so far?	Analysis of a writer's language in a non-fiction extract.	Analysis of a named poem.	Comparison of two poems: one named and one chosen.		Persuasive speaking based on a set text.

Year	HT1	HT2	НТ3	HT4	HT5
Each half term,	we layer new knowledge and vocabu	lary over previous knowledge and vo	ocabulary acquisition from KS3 and Y	ear 10 so that students repeatedly re	evisit prior learning.
AQA English Language and	English Language: Paper 2 Learning question: can I understand how to writers use different methods to communicate their viewpoint? Can I understand how to communicate my own convincing	Calls' Learning question: can I understand how Priestley uses his play to reflect his ideas about post-war society?	English Language: Paper 1 Learning question: can I understand how to writers use different methods when writing creatively? Can I understand how to craft my own convincing narrative writing?	Revision and exam practice Learning question: can I understand the requirements for each component for the exam? Can I understand how to make	Revision and exam practice Learning question: can I understand the requirements for each component for the exam? Can I understand how to make perceptive inferences? Can I
	viewpoint?			understand how to craft effective writing – creative, persuasive and analytical?	understand how to craft effective writing – creative, persuasive and analytical?
Key knowledge	English Language Paper 2 – Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives Section A – reading and Section B – writing. Vocabulary list. Retrieval of previous terminology and techniques, and the teaching of new terms and structures for viewpoint writing. Crafting and sustaining convincing persuasive texts. (Revisit Year 10 HT1/2 and HT3/4). NEA: Spoken Language	Modern texts and poetry Section A - 'An Inspector Calls': Vocabulary list, text, context, characters, themes. Retrieval of previous terminology and techniques, and the teaching of key terms such as real time and well-made play. Recap of English Language Paper 1 style questions.	English Language Paper 1 – Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing Section A – reading and Section B – writing. Vocabulary list. Retrieval of previous terminology and techniques, and the teaching of key terms such as intensifier, zoomorphism and shifts in tense/mood/focus/narrative perspective. Crafting and sustaining convincing descriptive and narrative responses.	Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing Section A – reading and Section B – writing. Vocabulary list. Retrieval of previous terminology	Revision and exam practice
revisiting	English Language: Critical reading and comprehension. Summary and synthesis. Evaluation of writers' language. Comparing how writers communicate their viewpoints and perspectives. Producing clear and coherent persuasive texts. Writing for emotional impact.	Critical reading skills. Literal and inferential comprehension. Evaluation of writers' language	English Language: Critical reading and comprehension. Evaluation of writers' language. Producing clear, coherent and imaginative responses. Writing for creative impact.	English Language: Critical reading and comprehension. Evaluation of writers' language. Producing clear, coherent and imaginative responses. Writing for creative impact. All knowledge and skills.	All knowledge and skills.

	Spoken Language NEA: Presenting information and ideas. Responding to spoken language. Using spoken Standard English.			
Assessment	Paper 2 NEA: Spoken Language	English Language Paper 1 Section B	Year 11 Mock 2: English Language Paper 1 Teacher assessed and self/ peer assessed timed past questions: 'Macbeth'. Teacher assessed and self/ peer assessed timed past questions: responding to unseen poetry. Teacher assessed and self/ peer assessed timed past questions: 'A Christmas Carol'.	RAP: Teacher assessed and self/ peer assessed timed past questions: 'Power and conflict' poetry. Teacher assessed and self/ peer assessed timed past questions: English Language — Paper 1. Teacher assessed and self/ peer assessed timed past questions: 'AIC'. Teacher assessed and self/ peer assessed timed past questions: English Language — Paper 1. Teacher assessed and self/ peer assessed timed past questions: Paper 2. Teacher assessed and self/ peer assessed timed past questions: Paper 2. Teacher assessed and self/ peer assessed timed past questions: Papers 1 and 2.