



## SUBJECT: Curriculum Overview

### Year 8

Half Term	Topic studied	What will I learn?	How will I be assessed?
Year 8 Autumn 1	<b>Reading a novel</b> – this will be one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Hunger Games</li> <li>• Stone Cold</li> <li>• Refugee Boy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To read and enjoy a novel as a whole class</li> <li>• To explore character and themes in a variety of ways including a range of speaking and listening activities</li> <li>• To analyse the narrative techniques used by the writer</li> </ul>	<p>You will produce a piece of <b>creative writing</b> based on ideas in the novel studied.</p> <p>You will be assessed on your use of creative writing techniques.</p>
Year 8 Autumn 2	<b>Romeo and Juliet</b> - Shakespeare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To read, perform and respond with understanding to a Shakespeare play</li> <li>• To have fun with Shakespeare’s language through speaking and listening activities</li> <li>• To use a range of ‘choice’ home works to respond in creative ways to a literature text</li> <li>• To analyse the language and themes within the play</li> <li>• To use the PEE technique when writing about literature</li> <li>• To begin to think about the relevance of social and historical context</li> </ul>	<p>You will write an <b>essay</b> about <b>Act 3, scene 1</b>.</p> <p>You will be assessed on your ability to understand the methods that Shakespeare uses to present character and themes.</p>
Year 8 Spring 1	<b>Drama text.</b> This will be one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noughts and Crosses</li> <li>• Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night</li> <li>• His Dark Materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To read and perform a section of a play</li> <li>• To understand the conventions of a drama script</li> <li>• To explore through discussion and written work the ideas and characters within the play</li> </ul>	<p>You will write an <b>essay</b> exploring how a character is presented in one of the scenes within the play.</p> <p>You will be assessed on your ability to understand the methods that a writer uses to present character and themes.</p> <p>There will also be opportunity to write a short script that can be performed to the class.</p>
Year 8 Spring 2	<b>Introduction to GCSE Language Paper 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To understand how the exam paper is structured and what is assessed</li> <li>• How to approach and respond to the questions</li> <li>• To read a range of extracts and analyse how a writer uses language and structure to present character and engage the reader</li> <li>• To practise planning and writing your own creative writing</li> </ul>	<p>Your year 8 exam will be a <b>GCSE style language paper</b> that is <b>aimed at year 8 students</b>.</p> <p>You will be assessed on your ability to read with understanding and write creatively.</p>
Year 8 Summer 1	<b>Growing pains</b> – poetry focused on growing up and family.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to read and engage with meaning in poetry</li> <li>• to analyse the methods a poet uses</li> <li>• to read a range of poetry including poetry written prior to 1914</li> <li>• to respond creatively to poetry</li> </ul>	<p>You will write a <b>short essay</b> on one of the poems studied.</p> <p>You will be assessed on your ability to understand the methods a poet uses.</p> <p>You will also be given the opportunity to write your own narrative poem.</p>
Year 8 Summer 2	<b>Travel Writing and Children’s Book Project</b>	<p>Travel writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to read and engage with a range of travel writing.</li> <li>• To understand the conventions of travel writing</li> <li>• To write your own piece of travel writing</li> </ul> <p>Children’s Book Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To understand the conventions of Children’s Picture Books</li> <li>• To interview a Yr1/2 student about his/her reading interests</li> <li>• To write a Children’s book to be given to a Yr1/2 student</li> </ul>	<p>You will write your own piece of <b>travel writing</b>.</p> <p>You will be assessed on your ability to use the conventions of travel writing.</p> <p>The Children’s book will not be assessed, but will be made and given to a Yr 1/2 student.</p>

