



English Content Outline

Y8



Term	Summary of Unit (learning aims, ideas, texts)	Content (terminology, vocab)
Autumn	The Supernatural <i>Last of the Spirits</i> by Chris Priestley - whole text analysis and focus on characterisation Gothic short stories - a selection of Victorian gothic short stories with an emphasis on the gothic genre and style	Gothic generic conventions: pathetic fallacy, mystery, the supernatural, isolation, the uncanny, fear Last of the Spirits unit to focus on characterisation, context, extract analysis, key quotations and developing analytical responses.
Spring	Prejudice & Courage Protest poetry - a selection of poems dealing with different issues with a focus on reader response Non-fiction writing unit - using extracts from texts to inspire writing with a focus on persuasive techniques.	Poetry terminology: rhyming couplet, mood, tone, sibilance, colloquial language Non-fiction focus on speeches and letters. Subject terminology: rhetorical question, rule of three, emotive language, facts, opinions, direct address
Summer	Gender & Identity <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> by William Shakespeare - exploring the representation of gender in a series of key extracts Gender and Identity - a non-fiction / media unit looking at explorations of gender and identity in different forms. Writing, rehearsing, and performing a speech about a topic of your choice.	Contextual information about role of women in Shakespeare’s time. Vocabulary: patriarchy, misogyny, feminist. Key vocabulary for gender and identity: prejudice, identity, bias, stereotypes, masculinity, femininity
Continuous Curriculum		
Reading Lesson	Each fortnight students have a lesson dedicated to reading for pleasure silently in the school library. Students might be invited to read aloud to their class teacher, our librarian, or a teaching assistant. The aim is for them to be reading a book appropriate to their reading ability and interests which they will be supported with choosing if needed.	
200 Word Challenge	Each fortnight students have a lesson dedicated to writing in response to a range of stimulus and for a variety of audiences, purposes and genres across both fiction and non-fiction. Students generate ideas, plan and write with the aim of including target vocabulary and techniques. Over time, they also develop their editing skills.	
Homework		
30 minutes thematically linked reading material with comprehension questions In the lead up to assessment periods there will also be RED Review tasks set to support with preparation		
Extra Curricular		
Performance by The Globe Players of an introduction to Shakespeare to all students New year 8 to 10 Book Club . Choose from 5 Young Adult novels from Murder mystery to a modern twist on Greek Myths, to Ghosts and witches and Dystopian Romance.		

School Webpage



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1st Assessment Period (Dec 2026)

1. Reading comprehension & analysis of two unseen gothic extracts including a comparison
2. Fiction writing task

2nd Assessment Period (Apr/May 2027)

1. Reading comprehension & analysis of an unseen non-fiction extract and character analysis from 'Last of the Spirits'
2. Non-fiction writing task

