

English

"Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another's skin, another's voice, another's soul." Joyce Carol Oates

Summerhill students will be **valuable members of society**

Studying English will open students to a world without barriers, without restrictions and without divides. At Summerhill, we will teach students the power of words: how they convey meaning, demand respect and can ultimately change the world.

Through the study of fiction and non-fiction, we will allow our students the opportunity to metaphorically walk in others' shoes. We will explore pre 19th century texts, contemporary authors, female authors and authors from BAME backgrounds thus developing students' empathy and ability to respect and understand a broad range of beliefs and ideas.

We will encourage students to reflect upon moral issues raised in texts, allowing them to explore different viewpoints, establish, and develop their own individual beliefs and opinions.

Summerhill students will be **skilled communicators**

Communication will be at the heart of every English lesson. Fundamentally, we are driven by the principles of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students will engage with a range of texts and will be encouraged to articulate their own ideas fluently and clearly through varying mediums.

By experiencing challenging academic texts, high level subject-specific vocabulary and critical discourse, students will develop skills of analysis and high level written and verbal communication.

We will explicitly teach and model the highest standards of literacy, arming students with the necessary understanding of how language works to allow them to communicate precisely and accurately.

Summerhill students will be **knowledgeable**

Just as language evolves, so does our curriculum. We will meet the demands of a ever changing society through our choice of texts, units and the knowledge required to be well-rounded, literate citizens.

Learning will be sequenced in incremental and thoughtfully considered stages, allowing for progression and the development of skills through a range of rich experiences which lead to deep learning.

The root of our English curriculum is to develop a love of the subject whilst providing students with a secure foundation on which to build and thrive in Key Stage 4 and beyond. We will explicitly teach literacy and vocabulary; how to analyse and interpret language; how the context in which a text is written affects our understanding of it and how writers present characters and ideas through their writing.

Our curriculum is underpinned by four key values:

- Courage** – doing what is right; being truthful; trying new experiences; taking risks in the pursuit of personal development
- Ambition** – having the highest aspirations and expectations of ourselves and others; being brilliant in all we do; having a belief that challenges can be overcome with the right attitude and hard work
- Respect** – thinking about the way we interact with others; being considerate to ourselves, others and the environment; responding to expectations and working together in teams
- Effort** – investing time and energy to achieve success; always giving our best in everything we do; demonstrating resilience through challenging times.

English Curriculum

Year	Key Features	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
7	5 single periods per week Mixed ability groups	<p>Non-fiction writing: Crime fiction and non-fiction and non-fiction Travel Writing</p> <p><i>Exploring the experiences of others, analysing how writers' viewpoint affects the language choices they make.</i></p>	<p>Fiction: A Monster Calls / Stone Cold</p> <p><i>Students explore the world of fiction to help understand experiences outside of their own: students study themes of love, loss and grief alongside contextual issues such as health and homelessness.</i></p>	<p>Myths and legends</p> <p><i>Students explore texts that have changed over time, examining how fiction texts often reflect the society in which we live encompassing morals and beliefs of the time.</i></p>	<p>Poetry from Other Cultures</p> <p><i>Students study a world without barriers, specifically looking at texts from other cultures and how individual experiences impact the literature they produce.</i></p>	<p>Our Day Out</p> <p><i>In this unit, students explore lives of the less fortunate, including poverty in the 1960s and the importance of a quality education for all. The unit has a focus on speaking and listening skills.</i></p>	<p>Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream</p> <p><i>Students explore a challenging text implementing a high-level critique of the English language. They also explore how society's views on women and relationships impact the play itself.</i></p>
8	4 single periods per week Mixed ability	<p>Dystopian Fiction</p> <p><i>Students explore the allegory of the Hunger Games examining how gender and the media can be manipulated for a larger agenda.</i></p>	<p>Shakespeare: Romeo & Juliet</p> <p><i>Students will develop high skills of analysis as a foundation for studying the language of Macbeth so that it will be accessible to all.</i></p>	<p>Detective Fiction: Sherlock Holmes</p> <p><i>Students explore a 19th century text in order to prepare for challenging vocabulary in other texts</i></p>	<p>Stories with a Twist</p> <p><i>Students practice their writing skills through a creative writing unit enabling them to explore linguistic devices and how they achieve particular effects.</i></p>	<p>Wider Voices</p> <p><i>Students study the power of words through a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts which focus on the BAME community and the issues they face: in society, the media and literature itself.</i></p>	

Year	Key Features	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
9	<p>5 single periods per week</p> <p>Taught in sets</p>	<p>Noughts and Crosses</p> <p><i>Students explore an inspirational fiction text which speaks to the heart. They examine how stereotypes, prejudice and racism impact the world around them and harness their empathetic skills in order to reflect upon moral issues and beliefs.</i></p>	<p>The Woman in Black</p> <p><i>An introduction to the gothic genre and social and historical context that students will be required to be familiar with in KS4. This novel is also highly challenging so that they may become more comfortable similar levels of complex language.</i></p>	<p>Don't Get Me Started...</p> <p><i>Students are introduced to the world of non-fiction writing exploring controversial viewpoints and how writers use techniques to shape and communicate arguments.</i></p> <p>Exam Preparation</p> <p><i>Bespoke lessons to prepare students for their year 9 exam.</i></p>	<p>Women in Literature</p> <p><i>Students analyse the role of female protagonists over time and how society and history have influenced their presentation. Students are encouraged to reflect upon the representation of women in the world around them and develop a critical eye for bias.</i></p>	<p>Heroes</p> <p><i>A love of literature is harnessed here as students are treated to a culturally rich text dealing with adult subject matter. Students are encouraged to critique the idea of heroism whilst developing their speaking and listening skills.</i></p>	

Year	Key Features	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
10	5 single periods per week	The Lovely Bones Love and Relationship Poetry	A Christmas Carol	An Inspector Calls	Poetry	Language Paper 1 Writing and Reading	Comparing non-fiction texts
GCSE English Language (AQA 8700)	Taught in sets	<i>Students explore the power of words and structure in fiction texts and then use these techniques in their own creative writing.</i>	<i>We then move on to A Christmas Carol, allowing students to critique the novella as a political discourse aiming to achieve social change. Students learn about the Victorian era and how social, historical and cultural context has influenced the novella. Alongside this, students are introduced and encouraged to use challenging subject-specific vocabulary in order analyse character and theme.</i>	<i>Students explore moral quandaries such as equality and power. They are encouraged to questions whether a world outside of divides and barriers can ever truly exist whilst employing a range of reading techniques allowing them to progress their analytical skills.</i>	<i>Students will finish the final ten poems in the Love and Relationships cluster. We also introduce unseen poetry and how to engage with and compare two texts students have never seen before.</i>	<i>Students are introduced to a number of revision and recall techniques which will support them through the challenge of mock exams. Literacy skills are highlighted and explicitly taught here to improve one's writing.</i>	<i>Non-Fiction is taught for the first time in KS4 as students build upon the analytical skills taught last term and implement them here with more challenge: comparing two non-fiction texts. Students are encouraged to develop their own viewpoints and use methods to communicate them clearly and persuasively.</i>
GCSE English Literature (AQA 8702)		<i>Students are introduced to poetic devices and explore different parental relationships in: Mother, Any Distance; Follower; Before You Were Mine; Eden Rock and Walking Away</i>					

Year	Key Features	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
11	5 single periods per week	Language Paper 2	<i>Shakespeare: Macbeth</i>	Unseen Poetry	Revision Focus: Paper 1 Paper 2 Poetry Macbeth Animal Farm A Christmas Carol		
GCSE English Language (AQA 8700)	Taught in sets	<i>Language paper 2 is taught for the first time building on skills learned in year 10 from Language Paper 1. This allows students to practice their analytical skills once more with two unseen fiction extracts. In addition, students are taught literacy and challenging vocabulary to enhance their writing skills.</i>	<i>Students are encouraged to establish their own ideas on Heroism and tragedy. Reading skills are fine-tuned with a focus on writer's methods and intentions along with character development.</i>	<i>Students are encouraged to develop their own viewpoints and use methods to communicate them clearly and persuasively.</i>	<i>All aspects of reading and writing are revised here with a focus on techniques and literacy.</i>		
GCSE English Literature (AQA 8702)		Poetry and A Christmas Carol <i>Revision of poetry and A Christmas Carol enables students to prepare for their mock exam by recalling key content and practising skills.</i>		Language Paper 1 <i>Language paper 1 is recalled from year 10 allowing students to practice their analytical skills once more with an unseen fiction extract. In addition, students are taught literacy and challenging vocabulary to enhance their writing skills.</i>			