



# Sacred Heart High School

## Key Stage 3 Curriculum

### ENGLISH

**INTENT** *(the unique contribution the subject makes to general education)*

English is at the core of the school curriculum. English allows pupils to:

- Communicate with confidence, clarity and impact
- Read with deep understanding, insight and interpretation
- Explore ideas, discuss, debate, explore and critique
- Express ideas creativity through language
- Engage with artistic milestones in prose, drama and poetry
- Make connections between writers, texts and contexts
- Develop empathy and understanding of our own and others' experiences

See more overleaf

## THEMES (KNOWLEDGE & UNDERSTANDING)

### Reading

- Pupils are taught to develop their understanding of fiction and non-fiction texts from an increasing range of complexity and from a variety of times, backgrounds and cultures.
- Pupils are taught a range of high-quality fiction, non-fiction, drama and poetry texts and will learn how to make connections between these texts, looking at how different writers have explored and presented similar themes and ideas

### Writing

- Pupils are taught to improve the quality and range of their writing, looking at the use of language and vocabulary, sentence structure, paragraphing and whole text structure.
- Pupils are taught the building blocks of language and grammar, using the appropriate terminology.

### Speaking

- Pupils understand the techniques that effective speakers use to engage their audiences, structure their speech and make effective points, for a range of different purposes.

## SKILLS

### Reading

- Pupils are taught to apply an increasingly complex range of skills from basic understanding of texts, through interpretation, close reading and analysis to comparison and contextual evaluation.
- Pupils are taught to understand and analyse writers' use of language, form and structure and to apply appropriate critical concepts and terminology to the analysis of texts from different genres.

### Writing

- Pupils are taught to develop their writing through a focus on word, sentence and text level skills for a range of writing purposes including formal essays, argumentative speeches, short stories, poems, newspaper articles and diary entries.

### Speaking

- Pupils are taught to develop their skills of public speaking in a range of contexts including formal presentations, debates and speeches.

## YEAR 7

### Novel Study

- The Giver by Lois Lowry

### Poetry Study

- Phenomenal Female Poets
- Renaissance Poetry and Sonnet Form

### Drama Study

- The Tempest William Shakespeare

### Speaking and Listening

- Formal Debating

### Short Stories and Creative Writing

## YEAR 8

### Novel Study

- The Outsiders by SE Hinton or Animal Farm by George Orwell

### Poetry Study

- Romantic and Victorian Poetry

### Drama Study

- Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare

### Speaking and Listening

- Formal Debating

### Short Stories and Creative Writing

## YEAR 9

### Novel Study

- Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
- To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

### Drama Study

- Blood Brothers by Willy Russell

### Poetry Study

- Poetry of WW1

### Speaking and Listening

- Formal Debating

## ASSESSMENT

- Ongoing assessment is carried out by teachers in pupils' books
- Pupils carry out a range of self and peer-assessed tasks
- Pupils sit formal exams in November and May
- Pupils undertake one formal written assessment each half term in either reading or writing
- Pupils are also assessed in their debating skills during the course of the year

## STRETCH & CHALLENGE

- Pupils carry out an independent reading project called the reading passport. This is based on a reading list which is shared with pupils at the start of the year and requires them to read six texts from different genres throughout the year.
- Pupils take part in Let's Think in English lessons in Y7 and Y8. These are cognitive development lessons which explore texts through structured talk and pupil-led discussion.
- Pupils are expected to read around the topics with novels, play and poetry suggested on the cover sheet of each unit

## ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Debating – we currently run debating clubs in KS3 and take part in debating contests with other schools
- Reading Clubs – we run reading clubs in all year groups at KS3