

English Year 8	Curriculum Intent: In year 8 students will study three key texts spanning a wide breadth of context. They will focus on events that altered history and society and how these are represented in the literature of the time. Contextual knowledge will be interleaved with key information relevant to each text, such as themes and characters, alongside a study of knowledge which is transferable and relevant for future learning such as the idea of a tragic hero in Macbeth. Spaced learning will occur through a cycle of lessons focusing on the four key areas of fiction, non-fiction, writing and poetry, linked thematically to the overarching text studied that term. Students will make links between these areas to develop their understanding of writers' methods and how a writer creates meaning. A range of skills will be developed throughout each unit with repeated practice. Each assessment will be used to inform future learning in the next unit, allowing teachers to focus on skills which may need more practice.																				
	Term 1				Term 2				Term 3												
Main Text	The Play (War related) - <i>Journey's End</i>				The Novel – <i>Of Mice and Men</i>				Shakespeare – <i>Macbeth</i> or <i>Richard III</i>												
Knowledge	To include: characters, plot, themes, structure, context, stagecraft and writer's methods.				To include: characters, plot, themes, structure, context and writer's methods.				To include: characters, plot, themes, structure, context, stagecraft and writer's methods.												
Interleaved Units	Unseen non-fiction	Unseen fiction	Fortnightly writing challenge	War Poetry	Unseen non-fiction	Unseen fiction	Fortnightly writing challenge	Poetry - Discrimination	Unseen non-fiction	Unseen fiction	Fortnightly writing challenge	Poetry comparison - Ambition									
Knowledge	Content, meaning, purpose, writer's methods	Content, meaning, purpose, writer's methods	A variety of fiction / non-fiction writing techniques (focus on spelling and punctuation)	Content, poetic form, meaning, context, poetic techniques	Content, meaning, purpose, writer's methods	Content, meaning, purpose, writer's methods	A variety of fiction / non-fiction writing techniques (focus on sentence structure and vocabulary)	Content, poetic form, meaning, context, poetic techniques	Content, meaning, purpose, writer's methods	Content, meaning, purpose, writer's methods	A variety of fiction / non-fiction writing techniques (focus on paragraphing and structure)	Content, poetic form, meaning, context, poetic techniques									
Understanding	Through the overarching context of war, links will be made between texts and writers' 'big ideas'. There will be a clear focus on developing an understanding of how writers create textual meaning through the methods they use and the opportunity for students to articulate this understanding through writing.				Through the overarching context of social depression, prejudice and the power of human relationships, links will be made between texts and writers' 'big ideas'. There will be a clear focus on developing an understanding of how writers create textual meaning through the methods they use and the opportunity for students to articulate this understanding through writing.				Through the overarching context of Shakespeare's Elizabethan Tragedies or Histories, links will be made between texts and writers' 'big ideas' on power, greed and the nature of kingship/authority. There will be a clear focus on developing an understanding of how writers create textual meaning through the methods they use and the opportunity for students to articulate this understanding through writing.												
Skills	Structure and coherence	Spelling, punctuation and grammar	Applying context	Using evidence	Analysing technique	Awareness of impact	Listening, discussing and presenting	Structure and coherence	Spelling, punctuation and grammar	Applying context	Using evidence	Analysing technique	Awareness of impact	Listening, discussing and presenting	Structure and coherence	Spelling, punctuation and grammar	Applying context	Using evidence	Analysing technique	Awareness of impact	Listening, discussing and presenting
Assessment	Reading: How does Sherriff present different reactions to war in 'Journey's End'?				Reading: How does Steinbeck present George and Lennie's relationship in 'Of Mice and Men'?				Reading: How is the theme of ambition presented in 'Macbeth' / 'Richard III'?												
	Writing: 'My Biggest Fear' from the perspective of a character.				Writing: Writing challenge from fortnight two - description.				Writing: Writing challenge from fortnight one - argue.												