



Northampton International Academy

English Curriculum Overview



Why Teach English?

We believe that English is the cornerstone of all learning; it is the language through which all other subjects are taught and knowledge is shared. Through an understanding of English, we learn the skills required to navigate the world around us. Our curriculum plan develops the ability to craft both the spoken and written word through explicit teaching of oracy, reading and writing, but English also broadens minds and encourages independent thought. This subject offers perhaps the greatest opportunity to develop skills of empathy by inviting students to step into the shoes of characters, connecting with other cultures and communities. English therefore provides young people with the building blocks not just for academic success, but also the foundations to live a fulfilling, purposeful and rewarding life as responsible members of society.

English will allow students to:

- Articulate ideas, views and opinions about a wide range of topics
- Read texts confidently and methodically, in order to breakdown the language and structure to establish and analyse meaning
- Read texts of varying levels of difficulty, fluently and with understanding
- Experience a vast array of literature and analyse writers' choices of language structure to establish and analyse meaning
- Communicate in a wide range of written forms, adapting language to audience and purpose

Our Common Teaching approaches:

- Learners' writing skills are inspired by the study of challenging texts
- Reading aloud and silently
- Reflecting on and improving written work
- Modelling new techniques and skills

The 9 Big Ideas of the English Curriculum

Our curriculum programme of study is arranged thematically as well as sequentially to create cohesion and progression from KS3-KS5. Within each scheme of learning, there are links stretching backwards and forwards to show how literature is rooted in what has come before, and how it influences what comes after. Our balanced and inclusive curriculum enriches students' cultural capital and nurtures a love of reading and writing whilst developing inquisitive and analytical minds.

Early Prose

Shakespeare

Poetry

Non- Fiction

Modern Plays

Modern Prose

Creative Writing

Academic Writing

Transactional Writing

Disciplinary Knowledge KS3

- Speaking and listening including formal presentations
- Inference and prediction from texts
- Sequencing and structure techniques
- Vocabulary development including technical vocabulary
- Metacognition
- Writers' use of language and structure
- Grammar and punctuation
- Planning, composition and editing of a range of writing forms: essays, reports, journals, speeches, descriptions, narratives, and articles

Disciplinary Knowledge KS4

- Speaking and listening including formal presentations
- Identification and Interpretation of key information
- Sequencing and structure techniques
- Vocabulary development including technical and critical vocabulary
- Writers' perspectives
- Evaluating texts
- Writers' use of language and structure
- Grammar and punctuation
- Planning, composition and editing of a range of writing forms: essays, reports, journals, speeches, descriptions and articles
- Relationships between texts

Disciplinary Knowledge KS5

- Making an informed and relative response
- Analysing meaning through structure
- Contextual influences on the texts
- Relationships between texts
- Making dynamic interpretations including how texts are viewed over time