

EPCHS English Department: Year 9 Programme of Study

The overall curriculum is intended to develop a love of English and reading, as well as expose students to different stories and contexts they would not otherwise have considered. We also wish to prepare students for the skills required at GCSE. Consequently, the structure of the curriculum has been designed so that there is clear progress from one year to the next. Each year the units build on the knowledge and understanding gained in the previous year. The intention is that by the time our students reach year 10, they have gained a deep body of knowledge of both literature and language, and developed skills that will enable them to access the GCSE course with confidence.

| Year/Term | Unit of Work | Intent |
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| Autumn 1 | Poetry: Time and Nature Poetry | This unit will develop students' appreciation and understanding of the poetry genre. Student will develop their ability to analyse and engage with poetry and begin to understand the significance of poems' contextual influences. This unit will further develop students' ability to make connections across poems, building on the work they did in the poetry unit in Year 8. |
| Autumn 2 | Modern Drama: Blood Brothers (Willy Russell) | This unit will give pupils an understanding of the features of the genre of drama and allow students to understand how dialogue functions as direct speech. This unit builds on the work done when studying Our Day Out in Y7 and 'Speeches that Changed the World' in Y8. In this unit, knowledge of spoken language will be extended to explore formality and register. |
| Spring 1 | Modern Novel: Purple Hibiscus (Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie) | This unit links to the other novels taught at KS3, enabling pupils to develop an increasingly complex understanding of narratology, over time. They will build on the work done in Y7 and Y8 on characters and relationships and consider themes, motifs and symbolism. Purple Hibiscus has been chosen in order to expand pupils' cultural capital and expose them to writing by authors from other cultures. |
| Spring 2 | Modern Novel: Purple Hibiscus (Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie) | Students will continue to explore Purple Hibiscus, but this half term they will develop their transactional writing skills alongside their literary study. They will use issues within the novel as a springboard for discussing complex ideas, building on the work they did in Year 8 on rhetoric and speeches. |

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| | Focus on Transactional Writing | |
| Summer 1 and 2 | GCSE Text: Macbeth | This is the first of the GCSE texts that students will study. It is done at the end of Y9 in order to fit with the whole school curriculum in which GCSE courses begin in Y9. Students will study the 'big ideas' explored by Shakespeare within this play, linking in its contextual factors and considering themes, characters and relationships. |