

Subject Information

ENGLISH



Top tips for Making Progress in English

- Get to know the 'Age Related Expectations' for Year 8. Pupils in Year 8 are expected to compare the similarities and differences between the texts they read (building upon the analysis of individual texts completed in Year 7).
- Try to understand what the 'Age Related Expectations' will look like in classwork when they are met. These will be displayed in the front of assessment books and around the English department.
- Try to read a wide range of texts outside of lessons. This can include:
 - the texts featured on the Year 8 reading list;
 - fictional and non-fictional writing;
 - different types of texts (e.g. novels, poems, short stories, plays, biographies/ auto-biographies, newspaper articles and blog posts);
 - texts from different time periods, especially texts from the 19th and 20th centuries which you might not have read before.
- Attempt creative writing outside of the classroom – see 'The Book Trust' website below for ideas.
- Always complete as many challenges as possible from the Home Learning Project set each half-term - this will support and extend learning completed within lessons.

Challenge Beyond the Classroom

- Participate in the extra-curricular activities and challenges, which we run throughout the school year in the English department. These include the 'International Children's Literature Quiz', the 'House Book Quiz' and various creative writing competitions.
- Aim to complete the 'Exceptional' challenges from the Home Learning Projects set each half-term – this will support progress within lessons beyond the 'Expected' criteria for Year 8.
- Make and stick to a revision timetable in the half-term leading up to mid-term and final examinations – class teachers can help with this.

Useful Websites

BBC Bitesize for Key Stage 3 (activities and revision resources):

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z3kw2hv>

CGP books – parent page (advice on topics to cover at home and resources available to buy):

https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/Parent/books_ks3_english

'The Book Trust' (suggested activities for getting children into reading and creative writing):

http://www.booktrust.org.uk/resources/search/?skip=0&search=games&activity_type=12&sort=title