



English at Laleham Gap School

English, as a subject, allows pupils to explore human experience and expression across contemporary and historical texts. As they make cross-curricular and intercultural links, they are in turn developing their **self-awareness** and **understanding of the world** they live in. Our aim in the department is to nurture our students to become **keen and responsive readers** as well as **polite and confident communicators**. Central texts and themes are planned by the department, but are often adapted or changed by the teachers to fit the students' interests.

	Term 1		Term 2		Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Year 7	Getting to Know You	Poetry New scheme to introduce different language devices and modes of writing.	Who we are or Tales of Beedle the Bard Diversity texts aimed at year 7 to help broaden the students understanding of the world	Christmas Fun A range of English based activities based around the theme of Christmas	Reading Non-fiction Central text: 'Room 13' , 'Holes' or 'The Demon Headmaster' short fiction texts Texts are used to supporting our students to understand personal differences and build friendships. Through non-fiction students are familiarised with how literature tackles themes and the skills that writer's use		A fun Introduction to Shakespeare and his stories! An introduction to the social and historical context of the bard whilst exploring the key scenes and stories through drama and spoken word. Some students will be focused on building their literacy and reading skills using a progressive reading and writing scheme.	Writing the World . This unit focuses upon improving grammatical knowledge and the effects of grammar. It shows how these techniques are used by nature documentaries and in the wider media.
	A short introduction to English at Laleham Gap.							



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Year 8

Gill Lewis Central text: ‘Sky Hawk’ or ‘The Demon Headmaster’ Through this story of friendship, conservation and an exciting rescue mission students will learn about the writer’s craft, foreshadowing and how to write a range of non-fiction and creative texts. NB –teacher discretion is used during the teaching of non-fiction texts and alternative texts maybe used to help enthuse students and aid enjoyment of reading	‘Dystopian Fiction This unit covers a range of texts from a popular genre and covers a range of analytical skills, character and persuasive writing. There are opportunities to enjoy additional books and films alongside to deepen the understanding of this genre.	Travel Writing A range of non-fiction and fiction texts and non-fiction to build the students’ understanding of the world. There will be opportunities to compare texts, understand how writers convey their points of view. Students will experience and trip and follow up with diary writing and travel logging.						
During this year classes that find engaging with longer texts difficult will work on the units based around the OUP’s Catapult schemes. These units are separated into: <table><tr><td>Characters and Setting</td><td>Action and atmosphere</td><td>Explanations and Insight</td><td>Opinion and Persuasion</td><td>Experience and Advice</td><td>Arguments and Essays</td></tr></table>			Characters and Setting	Action and atmosphere	Explanations and Insight	Opinion and Persuasion	Experience and Advice	Arguments and Essays
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Year 9	Frankenstein – Novel or playscript Students will have either access to the play version of Mary Shelley’s classic tale and be able to explore the themes of science and being an outsider. NB –teacher discretion is used during the teaching of non-fiction texts and alternative texts maybe used to help enthuse students and aid enjoyment of reading In addition to this students will be studying a range of War themed prose, non-fiction and poetry to develop a wide sense of how literature deepens our understanding of what it is to be human. 	Shakespeare Midsummer’s Night Dream/Romeo and Juliet/Tempest During this term students will learn the plot, themes and study character from a popular Shakespeare play. As well as developing their understanding and appreciation for Shakespeare they will develop their creative and transactional writing skills. Who We Are A range of Fiction/Non-Fiction texts and poetry to examine the diversity of people in Britain today. This scheme will build on the students	Young Entrepreneurs! (From red Ignite book) Skills for building a business Understanding how English is used in the world of work. Reading and writing persuasive texts and assessed on speaking and listening. Enrichment – groups design products and produce persuasive posters and a speech to sell to other groups. Careers: Building experience and understanding of how writing comes into the “real World”
During years 10 and 11 students are entered for Functional Skills exams as their needs require. Teachers will adjust lessons and teaching throughout to enable learners to achieve these preparatory qualifications			



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Year 10	Macbeth Students will take an in depth study into Shakespeare's tale, where the natural and supernatural worlds collide, of a man whose ambitions know no bounds. This will form the basis of using a timeless and engaging text to develop GCSE language skills. Students will also be exposed Paper 1 of the language exam and prepare for and sit TQUK exam.  Some groups will do an alternative text: Ghost Boy as a high interest text.	Modern Text: Animal Farm, Cirque du Freak or An Inspector Calls; Curious Incident Playscrip One of the literature texts will form the basis for a lively and engaging unit of work where students can see how the arts can engage the audience in the big themes which affect our day to day lives. During this time GCSE language skills are further developed through analysis of writing and the opportunities to develop extended writing. Students will also be exposed to paper 2 of the language exam.	Themed exam prep Using their understanding of the students, teachers will select a range of texts, to enjoy and analyse, to assist with building discrete exam skills.
Year 11	A Christmas Carol The focus on building exam skills continues as the students are immersed in 19th century prose. Language skills are further developed throughout a mixture of analytical reading and writing. Vital exam practice will also form a part of this unit of work.	Exam Preparation Students will be working towards their final exams. During this time teachers will be ensuring that all teaching and learning is focused on ensuring that all of our young people can feel confident and well prepared to take their final qualifications.	



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Pupils are also stretched and supported to develop their **vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar** regularly throughout each topic.