

Subject:	English Intent:
<h1>ENGLISH</h1>	The aim of Key Stage 3 English is to help students become skilful communicators in both written and spoken communication. Students will do this by reading and analysing all forms of fiction and non-fiction texts; explore the power of language and experiment with their own expressions of communication. At the heart of English we want to foster a passion for stories - whether they are real or imagined; theirs or another's. It is the ability to understand another person's story whilst being able to tell your own that helps a person to understand themselves and the world around us.

The Big Questions...

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language Change Over Time: What makes English a living language? How did it evolve from runes to the speech of Will-i-Am and can my newly created word be rescued to live into the future? - The Romantics: Who were the Romantics? How do they fit in to the literary timeline and what are they trying to say to us today? - The Other Side of Truth - exploring narrative: Who was Ken Saro-Wiwa? How do two children end up homeless, scared and thousands of miles from home? What will it take to reunite them with their father? - Introducing Shakespeare: What was it like to visit The Globe? Is Elizabethan English that different and how can I turn a section of one of his most famous plays in to a modern performance? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Travelling the World: What's the difference between a traveller and a tourist? How do Karl Pilkington, Michael Palin and Bill Bryson create a personal voice and vivid sense of place and can you do the same? - Understanding Victorian England - A Christmas Carol: What was life like in Victorian England? Who was the real Scrooge and can Dickens teach us anything new? - Dystopian Fiction - The Hunger Games and Conflict poetry: Why does the fiction of the future seem so bleak? Do you agree that Katniss is a true hero and can you recreate the missing section of the story? - Understanding Shakespeare - Twelfth Night: What did Elizabethans find funny and can Shakespeare still make us laugh? How has Shakespeare influenced modern culture? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exploring the Gothic Tradition: Where did the scary story come from? How does a writer hint at horror and can you bring alive the supernatural? - Exploring Shakespeare - A Merchant of Venice: What was the Duke of Belmont thinking of? How can the law turn against you and should Shylock have shown mercy? - Literature of Other Cultures - Of Mice and Men and poetry: Is the American Dream available to all? What is true friendship and can you measure it? - Modern Drama - Our Day Out or Journey's End: How does an audience experience a play? Does a writer's experience always influence their writing and can you understand their purpose?

What skills will I develop?

- You are already an astute student of English and can adapt your use and understanding of English in a variety of contexts but through the three years of KS3, we will embed, develop and refine these key skills of communication. Through the texts that you study and the writing that you produce you will understand that language has layers and it is by exploring these layers that you extend your skills of analysis and critical thinking.
- Building on the foundation blocks of writing, you will extend your creative writing skills in a variety of formats, to shape and craft your language and structural choices to speak to your audiences and achieve your purpose. Through discussions, presentations and role play you will become confident at justifying and expressing your opinion.

What great resources can I use?

- Get lost in the library! Each unit of study has an attached extended reading list and there's no better way of understanding an author, genre or theme than by exploring other works that link to it.
- Go to BBC Bitesize - KS3 English: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z3kw2hv> for helpful resources in all areas of English.
- Read the news - it is from the real stories and events around us that new stories are imagined and created.

How will I be assessed?

English assessments are divided in to the three core strands of Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening. Within each strand there are key age related expectations that make up a specific level of achievement from Level 1 to 6, with an exceptional performance level of 7 also available.

These expectations have been guided and influenced by the KS4 criteria but are separate from and designed to the requirements of KS3. Therefore, the data and judgements received from KS2 assessments correlates to a student's target level in Years 7, 8 and 9 and that by the end of each year the majority of students will be achieving the following:

Year 7 = level 2 - 3 Year 8 = level 3 - 4 Year 9 = level 4 - 5

Three ways that parents/carers can help...

1. Visit Yateley Library or charity/book shops to find reading material that both you and your child enjoy and can share the pleasure of reading.
2. Show awareness that language has power - engage in conversations with your child to discuss how the intent of certain vocabulary choices and imagery can impact its audience.
3. By contacting the English department whenever you need additional support or have questions about the course English@yateley.hants.sch.uk.