

Your 'English Learning Journey' spirals around core skills for Reading, Writing and Spoken English, allowing you multiple opportunities to practise, develop and refine your skills. Over your learning journey, you apply the core skills with increasing independence, accuracy and confidence.

**Reading:**  
Skills are tiered so that you are encouraged to develop more straightforward skills before focusing on more challenging ones. You also continually refine your existing skills in readiness for your next steps.

Expert



Novice

- ✓ Application of literary theory (readiness for A Level)
- ✓ Exploratory reading / different interpretations (Years 10, 11 then A Level)
- ✓ Evaluation of critical response (Years 10, 11 then A Level)
- ✓ Comparison and synthesis (Years 10, 11 then A Level)
- ✓ Structural analysis (Years 9, 10, 11 then A Level)
- ✓ Links to contexts (Years 8, 9, 10, 11 then A Level)
- ✓ Use of terminology/English keywords (Years 7, 8, 9, 10 then A Level)
- ✓ Language analysis (Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 then A Level)
- ✓ Use of supporting reference/quotation (Years 7, 8, 9, 10 then A Level)
- ✓ Comprehension and inference (Years 7, 8, 9, 10 then A Level)

'Reading the World' and 'Read to Succeed':

In addition to the texts that you study in class in your curriculum units, you encounter a diverse range of texts with linked themes - 'Texts in Tandem' - to enrich your studies, to broaden your horizons and to encourage your reading for pleasure.

You explore texts with shared themes from a range of voices, offering different perspectives and views from different contexts.

At Key Stage 3, you read broadly and for pleasure in 'Reading the World' lessons, developing literacy skills for life and your ability to understand the relevance of literature and language to the world around us.

Study of your GCSE set texts is complemented by a 'Read to Succeed' wider reading programme at Key Stage 4. Independent reading of texts that share themes with the GCSE set texts acts as a springboard for discussion and inspiration for creative writing, further developing not only your appreciation of your course set texts but also your love of literacy for life.

**Writing:**

You focus on learning, consolidating and refining your core writing skills in relation to different text forms, such that you develop the confidence and independence in terms of applying these in readiness for your next steps.

**Expert:** by your GCSEs, you are independently applying the conventions, language and structural features of different text forms with increasing sophistication.



The core skills you focus on are:

- ✓ Generating ideas and adapting writing to form
- ✓ Descriptive language techniques
- ✓ Persuasive language techniques
- ✓ Structural features (beginnings, endings, sequencing and thematic links)
- ✓ Paragraphing and discourse markers

**Novice:** at KS3, you are gradually introduced to the conventions, language and structural features of different text forms and get to practise applying these with support.

**Literacy:**

You focus on revising, consolidating and refining the core literacy skills introduced to you at primary school, such that you develop the confidence and accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar skills.

**Expert:** by your GCSEs, you have developed the breadth and accuracy of your vocabulary/spelling, punctuation and grammatical structures.



The core skills you focus on are:

- ✓ Vocabulary
- ✓ Punctuation
- ✓ Spelling
- ✓ Sentence Forms
- ✓ Standard English and Grammar (tense use; subject-verb agreement; capital letter use)

**Novice:** at KS3, you revisit spelling, punctuation and grammar skills from primary school, with your Year 7 & 8 Reading the World lessons directly focusing on developing these skills.

**Big Questions:**

Across your learning, you will revisit English 'big questions' to support the development of your ideas as well as the development of your skills:

1. What inspires creativity?
2. Why do we tell stories?
3. What inspires us to read?
4. What makes a good read?
5. How do texts link to each other and to life?
6. How does English help us to 'read' or understand the 'worlds' we live in?
7. Why do we write / read about real-life experiences?
8. Why do we write / read about challenging subjects?
9. To what extent should we follow our individual dreams & ambitions?
10. What causes unity / division?
11. What makes us laugh and brings us joy?
12. What is love?
13. Where do our responsibilities lie?
14. What shapes the decisions we make? How do we decide right from wrong?
15. Should we believe all we hear / read? How do we know what to trust?
16. How are we affected by power and status?
17. How might language shape our thoughts, views and perspectives?
18. What makes language powerful and persuasive?
19. Why are public speaking skills important?
20. What makes a good speech / presentation?

**Spoken English:**

Skills are tiered so that you are encouraged to develop more straightforward skills before focusing on more challenging ones. You also develop your skills in readiness for your next steps.

Expert



Novice

- ✓ Initiating and leading academic seminar scenarios (readiness for A Level)
- ✓ Formal, researched, academic & philosophical individual response (Years 9, 10, 11 then A Level)
- ✓ Increasingly formal, personal interest-focused individual response (Years 8, 9, 10, 11 then A Level)
- ✓ Less formal, familiar content & context-focused group scenarios (Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 then A Level)

**Alternative Routes:**

Across your English learning, your progress is carefully monitored to identify the next learning steps that you need to work on. Various forms of intervention from one-to-one reading support to GCSE Lunch drop-in and Saturday School sessions are available to ensure that you are supported to achieve to the very best of your ability.