

# English Curriculum Intent

At Trinity Academy Leeds we are passionate about providing our students with the tools to build the brightest future for themselves. The English curriculum provides our students with powerful knowledge and access to cultural capital through a variety of well-considered texts across the canon and beyond; students are exposed to a diverse range of contextual backgrounds and momentous historical events. We believe texts should be both mirrors and windows, ensuring children feel represented and seen, whilst empowering them to grasp opportunities and enjoy the best that has been thought and said in our rich cultural heritage. Our curriculum offer is never narrowed; all students access the same ambitious texts, irrespective of starting points. We explicitly teach academic vocabulary to enable students to consider and articulate challenging ideas. We teach a range of oracy and literacy skills to support our specialism of Voice, to ensure our students can become active and empowered citizens. The study of literature allows students to engage with complex issues of morality and the human condition, at TAL we view all texts through the lens of our Core Values of Honesty, Empathy, Respect and Responsibility.

Our knowledge-rich curriculum is delivered by passionate subject experts, who are committed to excellence and constantly hone and refine their craft through instructional coaching. Our Culture 20 ensures students adopt excellent learning habits allowing all students to engage equally with challenging content. Literacy is embedded across the curriculum, supported by explicit vocabulary instruction, insistence on full sentence answers and academic vocabulary built into our weekly recall.

English supports our cocurricular Involve offer, with Book Club exposing students to ever more ambitious and creative texts, Creative Writing Club and Journalism club, encouraging students to find their voice and ensure they are seen and heard through creating fiction and nonfiction. All students are given the opportunity to visit and engage with creative industries including Leeds Art Gallery and Leeds Heritage Theatres. The English department leads on the Build challenge of learning a poem by heart, providing all students with a beautifully illustrated Poetry Booklet. Reading for Pleasure is at the core of the whole academy, driven by the English department but supported by all. Our Inspire assemblies often focus on Role Models who read voraciously to improve their minds and ensure they could champion the vulnerable and those without a voice. Our library is the very heart of our academy, both literally and metaphorically, ensuring all students carry a challenging reading book to support a key part of our Home Learning strategy: Reading for 30 minutes every day. We have provided each student with 5 free books in the first term, to ensure books are in the homes of all of our families and we ensure Reading is celebrated through our Build Programme and high profile book giveaways such as Bookcember.

In English, all students access the same challenging, ambitious curriculum, taught through our carefully crafted contextualised booklets, lessons are scaffolded to ensure stretch and challenge, allowing all to Reach Higher. Our commitment to diverse texts enables all students to See Further, with our DEAR books allowing students to hear stories from a range of cultural experiences every day. Our emphasis on voice, insisting all students project answers and ideas with confidence across the classroom, develops confidence and self-efficacy ensuring all of our students can Shine Brighter.

# English Phase One Curriculum

Our English curriculum provides students with powerful knowledge and access to cultural capital through a variety of well-considered texts across the canon and beyond; students are exposed to a diverse range of contextual backgrounds and momentous historical events. We believe texts should be both mirrors and windows, ensuring children feel represented and seen, whilst empowering them to grasp opportunities and enjoy the best that has been thought and said in our rich cultural heritage. Our curriculum offer is never narrowed; all students access the same ambitious texts, irrespective of starting points.

Sitting alongside our Literature and writing curriculum is also a bespoke reading program where students are exposed weekly to an even greater range of forms, genres, topics and viewpoints.

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Year 7	Cirque du Freak by Darren Shan		I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzei		Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare	
Year 8	Animal Farm By George Orwell		Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds		An Inspector Calls by J B Priestley	
Year 9	Othello by William Shakespeare		The Book Thief by Markus Zusak		Non-fiction – The Impact of the Modern World	Power and Conflict Poetry