



# Curriculum Overview

## Curriculum Area: English Year: 7

### Year / Curriculum:

#### Autumn Term A: Identity and Voice

All pupils will explore the focus of identify and voice in literature through the study of the whole text '**Refugee Boy**' by Benjamin Zephaniah. The main aim of this unit is to show pupils that Literature texts can teach us about the wider world we live in. Through this text, pupils will also develop knowledge of the components of narrative voice at word, sentence and text level and how they are used.

*G & V – pupils will use Standard English confidently in their own writing and speech.*

#### Autumn Term B: Identity and Voice Poetry

All pupils will further their knowledge of identity and voice through the study of four poems from other cultures (Island Man, Search for my Tongue, Clown Punk and Brendan Gallacher). This unit will also teach pupils how to annotate a poem effectively, focusing on a poet's choices of language, structure and form.

*G & V Draw on new vocabulary, grammar and structures from their reading to improve coherence and effectiveness.*

#### Summer Term: Characterisation

All pupils will explore the focus of characterisation through the study of '**Oliver Twist**' by Charles Dickens. Pupils will learn about Dicken's social voice and the context of his writing and society as well as the importance of Dickens as a seminal author in the literary canon. Pupils will explore the different presentations of Oliver Twist and the Artful Dodger and their roles in the novel. They will develop a critical understanding and appreciation of how characters are shaped by descriptive language and the effects that language has on the reader.

*G & V – pupils will use Standard English confidently in their own writing and speech.*

#### Spring Term: Twists and Turns

All pupils will explore the focus of twists and turns in '**A Midsummer Night's Dream**' by William Shakespeare. This unit explores the importance of Shakespeare and his plays in our rich literary canon. It will focus on the importance of structure and language in creating comedy characters and plot that engages and entertains its audience. Pupils will study in depth the comedy character of Bottom from the play and evaluate how effective his presentation is in entertaining the audience.

*G & V – pupils will draw on new vocabulary and grammatical constructions from their reading of the text.*

### Links to National Curriculum

**Reading:** Developing an appreciation and love of reading in increasingly challenging material. High quality works from both pre 1914 and contemporary texts including Shakespeare.

Read critically through knowing how language, structure and organisational techniques present meaning. Studying setting, plot and characterisation and their effects on the reader. Make critical comparisons across texts.

*G & V Extend and apply grammatical knowledge from the appendix to analyse more challenging texts.*

**Writing:** Write accurately and fluently, effectively and at length for pleasure and information through narrative and non-narrative texts.

Draw on knowledge of literary devices from their reading to enhance the quality and impact of their writing.

*G & V Draw on new vocabulary, grammar and structures from their reading to improve coherence and effectiveness.*

**Spoken English:** Speak confidently and effectively in a range of informal and formal contexts including discussion.

*G & V Know the difference between spoken and written language. Use Standard English in their own speech.*

### Knowledge and understanding of this curriculum will be assessed by:

Alem's persuasive court speech – why he should be able stay in England?

Creative writing piece with a focus on character.

A detailed exploration of how language and structure is used to present a character in A Midsummer Night's Dream.

#### Spoken Language Assessments:

Refugee Boy group discussion

Mini presentation to explore which character in Oliver Twist they have most sympathy for.

A Midsummer Night's Dream news broadcast.

### Powerful Knowledge/Cultural Capital Opportunities

Knowledge and understanding of displacement and the ability to empathise with others experiencing difficulties.

Knowledge and understanding of how voice can empower individuals and begin social changes.

Knowledge and understanding of how Literature texts can teach them about the world they live in, whilst encouraging them to question their own identity and position in society.