

Curriculum Overview – English

Year	Overview	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2	Key Stage 3 Formal Assessments: Reading and writing paper assessing the knowledge retained over the academic year in Year 7	Student Resources
7	Engaging – Year 7 students study a range of different texts and topics to engage them with a love of English. Students improve their writing skills through studies on Myths & Legends and Autobiographies. Students, also, progress in their reading and analytical skills by studying a variety of interesting literature texts in different forms and genres: <i>Oliver Twist</i> (prose), <i>Nature</i> (poetry), <i>Dracula</i> (plays).	Prose Study: Once: Students begin the year reading a novel. They learn how to analyse language and develop an understanding of how writer’s use methods to create meaning.	Exploration of Creative Writing: Myths & Legends Students improve their writing skills by studying a range of myths and legends. They learn how to employ specific techniques in their own writing to engage readers.	Introduction to Drama: Dracula Students learn a different form of text: plays. Pupils <i>Dracula</i> – learning key conventions of play texts and the Gothic genre. Students learn to develop their analytical skills through analysing extracts.	Non-Fiction: The Power of Thought Students are introduced to nonfiction writing through a range of texts. They study a variety of authors and learn how to utilise key conventions in their own nonfiction writing.	Poetry Study: Natural World Students are introduced to poetry and learn key techniques and terminology. They study a range of poems from poets to develop their analytical skills.	Genre Study: Adventure Across the World Students study a range of texts with a genre appropriate setting and learn how to embed this genre into their own creative writing. They build upon the writing skills they have been practising throughout the year.		Further Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Percy Jackson Series</i> by Rick Riordan. ➤ https://www.charlesdickensinfo.com/ ➤ https://www.bl.uk/romanticsandvictorians/articles/the-romantics ➤ <i>I am Malala</i> by Malala Yousafzai. ➤ <i>The Diary of a Young Girl</i> by Anne Frank. ➤ <i>Dracula</i> by Bram Stoker ➤ <i>Frankenstein</i> by Mary Shelley ➤ <i>Railhead</i> by Philip Reeve ➤ <i>The Iron Man</i> by Ted Hughes
		CET baseline assessment NGRT Whole Class Feedback – Extended Analysis Powerful Knowledge Test	Powerful Knowledge Test	Powerful Knowledge Test	Whole Class Feedback – Extended Analysis Powerful Knowledge Test	Powerful Knowledge Test	CET Writing Assessment Reading Assessment Powerful Knowledge Test		
8	Exploring – Year 8 students build upon their Year 7 English skills by exploring more complex texts and ideas. They enhance their writing skills by exploring how texts are transformed, develop non-fiction skills (Discovery & Exploration) and become able to write in the genre style of Gothic Literature. Pupils also explore more complex literature texts; <i>Sherlock Holmes</i> (prose), Shakespeare – <i>The Tempest</i> (plays) and Culture Poetry (poetry).	Prose Study: Jekyll & Hyde Students improve their reading skills and gain a good understanding of life during the Victorian era when studying this text. They learn how to analyse a text for the writer’s methods and effects created.	Exploration of Creative Writing: Mystery Students build on their Year 7 skills of creative writing while exploring genre. They utilise their understanding of character tropes and write their own piece of creative writing.	Shakespeare Study: Hamlet Students are introduced to the first Shakespeare text of KS3. They begin to develop an understanding of Elizabethan/Jacobean context and build upon their analysis of drama learnt in Year 7.	Non-Fiction: The Power of Discovery Students enhance their previous Year 7 non-fiction writing skills by examining texts based around discovery and exploration – looking at both travel and historical moments.	Poetry Study: Culture and Identity Students study a range of poetry from a variety of different cultures. They expand on their poetry skills learnt in Year 7 and develop an understanding of the wider world.	Genre Study: Gothic Literature Students study a range of Gothic Literature in a variety of forms. Pupils learn the style and key conventions found in Gothic texts and are able to employ these into their own piece of Gothic creative writing.	Key Stage 3 Formal Assessments: Reading and writing paper assessing the knowledge retained over the academic year in Year 8	Further Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes</i> by Arthur Conan Doyle. ➤ <i>Young Sherlock Holmes Series</i> by Andrew Lane ➤ <i>The House of Silk / Moriarty</i> by Anthony Horowitz ➤ Royal Shakespeare Company: https://www.rsc.org.uk/ ➤ https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/ ➤ <i>The Woman in Black</i> by Susan Hill ➤ <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> by Oscar Wilde
		Whole Class Feedback – Extended Analysis Powerful Knowledge Test	Powerful Knowledge Test	Powerful Knowledge Test	Whole Class Feedback – Extended Analysis Powerful Knowledge Test	Powerful Knowledge Test	CET Writing Assessment Reading Assessment Powerful Knowledge Test		
9	Embedding – Year 9 students continue to develop and embed their English skills through a range of challenging topics and texts. Their writing skills become embedded through topics of creative writing (Dystopian/Strange Worlds) and non-fiction (The Language of Protest). They, also, learn to compare texts and enhance their cultural capital in the ‘London Across Time’ unit. They also study a range of challenging literature texts: Shakespeare’s <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> or <i>Twelfth Night</i> and <i>American Literature: Of Mice and Men</i> .	Prose Study: Animal Farm Students embed their understanding of writer’s methods to create meaning when studying this text. They will develop their knowledge of the impact of historical context and authorial intent. Students will embed these ideas into their analytical writing.	Exploration of Creative Writing: Dystopian/Strange Worlds Students study a range of extracts from Dystopian texts. They develop an understanding of key conventions of the genre and embed these by creating their own piece of Dystopian fiction.	Shakespeare Study: Macbeth Students embed their understanding of Shakespeare’s plays by studying <i>Macbeth</i> . They develop their knowledge of context and writer’s methods used in plays.	Non-Fiction: The Language of Protest Students study a range of non-fiction texts with a thematic link of protest. From Martin Luther King’s infamous <i>I have a Dream</i> speech to the Suffragette movement of the early 20 th century. Pupils learn how to write persuasively and embed their writing skills into their own ‘protest’ speech.	Literature Study: Love and Hate Students study a range of poems linked to the concepts of love and hate. They embed their reading skills of how writers’ use both language and structure in their poems and make comparisons of how this is done.	Language Comparison: London Across Time Students study both fiction and nonfiction texts which have a setting of London, from Medieval to Modern day. Pupils draw upon their reading skills and develop their understanding of how to compare texts, as well as improving their understanding of how our capital city has changed over time.	Key Stage 3 Formal Assessments: Reading and writing paper assessing the knowledge retained over the academic year in Year 9	Further Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee ➤ <i>Mortal Engines</i> by Philip Reeve ➤ <i>Nineteen Eighty-Four</i> by George Orwell ➤ <i>The Knife of Never Letting Go</i> by Patrick Ness ➤ <i>Brother in the Land</i> by Robert Swindells ➤ Royal Shakespeare Company: https://www.rsc.org.uk/ ➤ <i>Journey’s End</i> by R.C. Sheriff ➤ <i>Private Peaceful</i> by Michael Morpurgo ➤ <i>Between Shades of Gray</i> by Ruta Sepetys ➤ <i>Once</i> by Morris Gleitzman ➤ <i>The Book Thief</i> by Markus Zusak ➤ <i>The Boy in Striped Pyjamas</i> by John Boyne ➤ <i>Nowhere</i> by Neil Gaiman ➤ <i>How to Stop Time</i> by Matt Haig
		Whole Class Feedback – Extended Analysis Powerful Knowledge Test	Powerful Knowledge Test	Powerful Knowledge Test	Whole Class Feedback – Extended Analysis Powerful Knowledge Test	Powerful Knowledge Test	CET Writing Assessment Reading Assessment Powerful Knowledge Test		

Curriculum Overview – English

Year	Overview	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Summer 1		Summer 2		Student Resources
10	Extending – In Year 10, students extend their English skills by learning how to use the skills developed at Key Stage Three in preparation for their GCSE English Language and Literature examinations. They cover three Literature texts (<i>A Christmas Carol</i> , <i>Romeo & Juliet</i> , <i>An Inspector Calls</i>) and begin to interleave poetry. Students learn how to analyse the writers’ methods and effects created on the reader. They also develop their language skills by learning how to successfully answer the different components on the GCSE Language examination papers - both reading and writing.	Language Paper 2 Language Paper 2 Section A focuses on students reading and comparative skills of non-fiction texts. Students extend their understanding of non-fiction texts learnt in KS3 and develop the skills and methods necessary to successfully answer the questions. Language Paper 2 Section B focuses on students extending their non-fiction writing skills	December 2025: 19th Century Literature: A Christmas Carol Students read and understand the literature text, <i>A Christmas Carol</i> . They extend their reading skills and understanding of the context of Dickens’ London learnt in KS3 as well as the methods to write an examination style essay based on an unseen extract. During their study of A Christmas Carol, students will also begin to develop their poetry analysis through unseen poetry lessons. December 2024: Poetry Power & Conflict Students study 15 poems from the Power & Conflict AQA Anthology. These include a range of poets from William Blake to Simon Armitage. They develop their analytical and comparison skills and learn how to write an analytical, comparative essay.		Language Paper 1: Section A&B Language Paper1 Section A focuses on students reading understanding of fiction texts. Students extend their understanding of fiction texts learnt in KS3 and develop the skills and methods necessary to successfully answer the questions. Language Paper 2 Section B focuses on students developing and extending their creative writing skills.	Modern Literature: An Inspector Calls Students study <i>An Inspector Calls</i> for the modern text component of their GCSE Literature. They extend their reading skills learnt so far and apply these to the method of writing an essay without an extract.	Language Paper 1: Section B / Spoken Language Study / Retrieval of all text studied Students prepare for their Spoken Language Study. For this, pupils must prepare and perform a persuasive speech of a topic of their choice. Students will also retrieve powerful knowledge linked to prior topics to prepare them for their mocks during this half term.	Year 10 Mock Examinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ https://www.charlesdickensinfo.com/➤ Royal Shakespeare Company: https://www.rsc.org.uk/➤ https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/➤ SENECA online learning➤ Mr Bruff – YouTube➤ BBC Bitesize➤ Revision guides (see full list on Caister Academy website).
		English Language Paper 2			English Language Paper 1		Spoken Language Assessment		
11	Excelling – In Year 11, students are excelling with their English skills and become fully prepared for their summer examinations. They complete their study of literature with poetry (both anthology and unseen) and undertake revision of all the other literature texts. They recap and practise their language skills and feel confident and ready for their examinations in the summer.	September 2025: 19th Century Literature: A Christmas Carol Students read and understand the literature text, <i>A Christmas Carol</i> . They extend their reading skills and understanding of the context of Dickens’ London learnt in KS3 as well as the methods to write an examination style essay based on an unseen extract.	Unseen Poetry & Language Paper 1 and 2 Revision Students revise the of methods and skills needed to be successful in Language Paper 1 and Paper 2. Pupils recap both reading and writing skills and practise examination style questions. Students also revise the methods and skills needed to be successful in analysing unseen poetry.	Year 11 Full Mock Examinations – Examination Rooms	Revision of Set Texts & Exam Practice Students recap and revise the literature set texts and practise exam style questions. Pupils are reassured and feel ready to take their real examinations.	Revision of Set Texts & Exam Practice Students recap and revise the literature set texts and practise exam style questions. Pupils are reassured and feel ready to take their real examinations.	GCSE Examination Window		<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ SENECA online learning➤ Mr Bruff – YouTube➤ BBC Bitesize➤ Revision guides/exam practice workbooks (see full list on Caister Academy website).➤ AQA GCSE English Language: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700➤ AQA GCSE English Literature: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702
		September 2026: Poetry: Power & Conflict Students study 15 poems from the Power & Conflict AQA Anthology. These include a range of poets from William Blake to Simon Armitage. They develop their analytical and comparison skills and learn how to write an analytical, comparative essay.							
		2025: A Christmas Carol Extract Response							