YEAR 7 ENGLISH CURRICULUM OVERVIEW 2026 – 2027

YR7	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Content	**FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Catapult 1, Chapter 1: Characters & Setting Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Catapult 1, Chapter 2: Action & Atmosphere **POETRY** The World Reimagined Anthology Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**NON-FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Catapult 1, Chapter 3: Explanations & Insights Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**NON-FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Catapult 1, Chapter 4: Opinions & Persuasion **SHAKESPEARE** The Tempest – The Graphic Series; B&D Publishing worksheets; The Royal Shakespeare Company Learning Zone https://www.rsc.org.uk/shakespeare-learning-zone/the-tempest Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**NON-FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Catapult 1, Chapter 6: Arguments & Essays Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Ignite1, Unit 3: Out of This World Exam skills Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure

Key new knowledge	Identify key details about setting and characters from a fiction text. Explore how a writer's language choices help to create a sense of place. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Develop the inferences you make about characters from the evidence you find. Explore how writers use flashbacks to develop characters. Explore the layers of meaning in a poem. Identify how the poet has used imagery to reinforce a poem's theme. Identify key details and quotations to show understanding of character. Explore the words writers choose to describe characters and places.	Explore how a writer creates an effective story opening. Practise building suspense and creating a tense atmosphere in your own writing. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Explore how sentence structures contribute to mood & atmosphere. Explore how a writer describes a dramatic event through Use alliteration other techniques to create an effective description of a character. Identify how the sequencing of events can build suspense. Identify key details and show awareness of implied meaning. Explore how narrative perspective, similes and personification can be used to create a mysterious atmosphere in your own writing.	Identify key information in a text. Use subheadings and paragraphs to organise information and ideas. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Find relevant information from different parts of a text. Combine information to develop & demonstrate overall understanding. Understand how a writer uses sentence structure & paragraphs to make information interesting & relevant to the reader. Practise writing your own informative and relevant news report. Gather information from a 19th-century text. Understand how sentence forms, punctuation and language choices are used to communicate meaning and tone in a 19th-century text.	Explore how text structure & sentence structure can be used to persuade an audience. Use these features to make your own writing more effective. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Explore how a writer uses language and structure to communicate strong emotions in a persuasive text. Explore how a writer uses contrast to persuade an audience. Explore how a writer varies verb tenses to create specific effects. Create an effective opening and ending to a letter, using paragraphs to structure your ideas. Make inferences, using evidence from the text to support your ideas. Read closely to analyse how a writer	Show that you understand arguments from different writers. Explore how vocabulary & sentence structure can be used to express ideas and arguments. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Explore how information in a non-fiction text is presented & organised to support the text's purpose. Explore how writers use noun phrases, verbs, adjectives and punctuation to present arguments Make inferences from a 19th-century text, using evidence from the text to support your ideas. Explore how a writer selects words, phrases & sentence structures for effect, and use this skill in your own writing. Identify the form and features of narrative essays.	Recognize the typical features of science fiction. Explore the effect of using the present tense to engage the reader. Identify different categories of science fiction through blurbs Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Explore the build-up of atmosphere & tension. Read an extract from Frankenstein, looking at how language choice in description conveys powerful images. Understand the effect of punctuation. Investigate different ideas & points of view. Prepare & present a viewpoint for debate. Recognize the techniques used to create effective description Explore the features of a good story opening & use them effectively

		POETRY:		uses language, and selects and contrasts information, to persuade. **SHAKESPEARE:** Understand the storyline Develop an understanding of who's who Consider the impact of setting Find out about Shakespeare's life and the times he lived in	Explore a writer's techniques, such as the use of descriptive noun phrases, to produce an emotional response.	Use inference and deduction Recognize the impact of settings.
Assessments	Progress checks End of topic **reading assessment**	Progress checks End of topic **writing assessment**	Progress checks End of topic **reading assessment**	Progress checks End of topic **writing assessment**	Progress checks End of topic **writing and spoken language assessments**	Progress checks End of topic **reading assessment**

YEAR 8 ENGLISH CURRICULUM OVERVIEW 2026 – 2027

YR8	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Content	**FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Catapult 2, Chapter 1 & 2: Plot & Pace / Genres & Themes Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Catapult 2, Chapter 3: People & Voices: **POETRY** The World Reimagined Anthology Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**NON-FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Catapult 2, Chapter 4: Autobiography & Reflection Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**NON-FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Ignite 1, Unit 6: Your Language: **SHAKESPEARE** Hamlet – graphic novel The Royal Shakespeare Company Learning Zone https://www.rsc.org.uk/shakespeare-learning-zone/hamlet Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**NON-FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Catapult 2, Chapter 5: Witnesses & Reports: OR Survival - booklets Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Catapult 2, Chapter 6: Viewpoints & Issues Exam skills Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure

Key new knowledge	• Explore the use of the present tense and first-person viewpoint to build tension. • Investigate how a writer's use of paragraphs and sentences contributes to narrative pace. • Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary • Explore how language choices can help to intensify the action of a scene. • Identify how a writer uses adverbs of time and place to help establish setting. • Understand how events in a narrative can be presented in a non-chronological order Explore how a writer selects specific details to both create characters and suggest themes.	Examine how poetic voice is used to convey ideas. Identify rhyme, rhythm and their effect. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Understand and compare how humour is used to convey a writer's concerns. Analyse the effects of repetition in poetry Understand how contrast can be used to convey personal experience. Explore the effect of personification in poetic and descriptive writing. Identify figurative language and consider its effects. Consider Shakespeare's use of language and what it conveys about character and relationships	Identify and understand features of informal language, including colloquial language. Develop inferences based on evidence from across a text. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Understand how a writer organises a text using paragraphs. Understand how information in a text can be presented in chronological order using adverbs and adverbials of time. Explore the effects of using a variety of sentence structures. Analyse the effects of word choices to convey character Analyse how a writer uses nouns, noun phrases and prepositions to establish details of a setting. Establish a setting in your own writing using specific details.	Understand differences between dialect, slang and Standard English. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Investigate how spoken language is represented in literary texts. Consider aspects of personal language and the influences on them Discover the differences between formal and informal language Analyse the key features of an information text. Use discussion to clarify views **SHAKESPEARE**	Learn how adverbials help to structure and sequence a text. Explore how thoughts and feelings can be combined with action to create effective description. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Explain how a writer's use of sentence structure and release of information controls narrative pace and builds suspense. Explore how verbs, adjectives and figurative language are used to convey a discovery. Learn how direct quotation and reported speech can be used effectively. Explore how language and structure can be used to create emotion in a report. Explore the purpose and audience of a diary.	Explore how sentence structure and language choices add to the effectiveness of an argument. Explore how a writer presents evidence to support their argument. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Retrieve information from a letter written in the 19th century. Compare the viewpoints of a 19th-century writer with those of a modern writer. Understand and practise how to structure an expository essay. Use counter-argument to strengthen your argument Explore how a writer's tone can engage a reader's sympathy. Learn how to use expanded noun phrases to construct an effective appeal

	Explore how a writer chooses effective language to describe action and setting • Explore how description can help readers to visualise the unfamiliar • . • Understand how to use dialogue and description to establish character.				Explore how a writer uses the diary form to convey powerful ideas and emotions in a simple way.	
Assessments	Progress checks End of topic **reading assessment**	Progress checks End of topic **reading assessment**	Progress checks End of topic **writing assessment**	Progress checks End of topic **writing & spoken language assessment**	Progress checks End of topic **reading assessment**	Progress checks End of topic **writing assessment**

YEAR 9 ENGLISH CURRICULUM OVERVIEW 2026 – 2027

YR 9	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Content	**FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Building Skills in English 1 Unit 3: Gothic Tales OR Ignite 2, Unit 1: It's a Mystery Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**FICTION and** **NON-FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Ignite 2, Unit 2: Words of War Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**NON-FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Ignite 2. Unit 3: Appearance & Reality Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Ignite 2, Unit 6: Power of Communication **SHAKESPEARE** Macbeth – The Graphic Series; B&D Publishing worksheets; The Royal Shakespeare Company Learning Zone https://www.rsc.org.uk/shakespeare-learning-zone/macbeth Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**NON-FICTION** **Reading & Writing** **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Ignite 2, Unit 4: Technology Matters Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure	**FICTION** **Reading & Writing** Opportunities for **SPOKEN LANGUAGE** Ignite 2, Unit 5: Campaign for a Cause Exam skills Writing Challenge Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar Handwriting Practice Reading for Pleasure

Key new knowledge	Identify the typical features of the mystery genre. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Use inference and deduction to explore layers of meaning Explore how vocabulary and subordinate clauses can be used to create suspense Explore how to structure a mystery story. Explore characterization in extracts from different mystery stories. Explore how writers create effective narrative voices explore setting and situation.	Understand how texts reflect the historical context in which they are written Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Explore how language choices and literary features can create a powerful effect. Understand the effectiveness of correct punctuation Understand the impact of vocabulary and descriptions. Understand how the structure of a poem helps to convey its meaning.	Analyse and interpret how character and setting are created Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Investigate how and why writers use extended metaphors Explore how puns and other forms of wordplay can be used to create humour.	Explore how rhetorical devices are used to create particular effects Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary Explore how choices of form, layout and presentation create persuasive effects Develop understanding of how emotive language and other literary devices can be used to persuade. Develop effective debating skills, using a range of techniques to present points of view persuasively. Explore the rhetorical and literary devices used to persuade listeners	Make a sustained contribution to the group discussion, listening and building on what is said. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Analyse how descriptive devices convey a strong message to the reader. Convey a consistent viewpoint using an appropriate level of formality Participate in a structured group discussion, building on what is said and summarizing the group's conclusions	Make relevant contributions to discussion, supporting others' contributions. Learn, understand and practise using new vocabulary. Reach an agreement through discussion Use listening and questioning skills Identify reliable factual information from a range of sources. Identify the structural and language features of a formal report Understand how structural, presentational and language devices create effects Explore various persuasive devices
Assessments	Progress checks End of topic **writing / reading assessment**	Progress checks End of topic **reading assessment**	Progress checks End of topic **reading assessment**	Progress checks End of topic **spoken language assessment: presenting**	Progress checks End of topic **spoken language assessment: debating**	Progress checks End of topic **reading/ writing assessments**