



**ST. MATTHEW'S**  
 ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
 Voluntary Academy

# KS3 English Curriculum Plan

Ms Cross

[r.cross@smrchs.com](mailto:r.cross@smrchs.com)

Year 7 Curriculum		
Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<b>Autumn 1 and 2</b> <b>Big Idea: To understand what makes us who we are</b> Students will explore Mancunian heritage, writers, and setting to better understand the city they live in. They will develop their reading skills through exploring the novel "Boy, everywhere" alongside literature about Manchester and from Mancunian writers. Using this knowledge, students will then use these skills to expand their narrative writing skills. Students will begin to enhance their spoken language skills through debates and presentations.	<b>Spring 1 and 2</b> <b>Big idea: To understand the power of the monstrous</b> Through studying Mary Shelley's 'Frankenstein', students will explore the conventions of the Gothic genre. As well as studying 'Frankenstein', they will explore other gothic writers such as Edgar Allan Poe and Percy Bysshe Shelley. They will use their knowledge of the gothic conventions to enhance their descriptive writing skills by creating their own gothic settings. Students will continue to become confident speakers by debating the possible dangers of science.	<b>Summer 1 and 2</b> <b>Big idea: To understand the power of relationships</b> Students will immerse themselves in the world of Shakespeare through the study of A Midsummer Night's Dream and explore the presentation of relationships. Alongside A Midsummer Night's Dream, students will study poetry from the English Renaissance to gain a deeper contextual understanding of the era. Using A Midsummer Night's Dream as a springboard, students will continue to develop their narrative writing skills as well as their speaking and listening skills through performance, debates, and hot seating.

Year 8 Curriculum		
Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<b>Autumn 1</b> <b>Big Idea: To understand the power of redemption</b>	<b>Spring 1</b> <b>Big idea: To understand the power of resilience</b>	<b>Summer 1</b> <b>Big idea: To understand the power of love</b>

Through studying A Christmas Carol, students will explore Victorian writing through a post-colonial lens and explore classic Victorian villains such as Magwitch, Miss Havisham, and Fagin. They will deepen their contextual understanding by	Students will study Chinese Cinderella by Adeline Yen Mah and develop their understanding of Chinese culture. Students will use this autobiography as a spring board to develop their own autobiographical writing and nonfiction	At the end of Y8, students will explore one of Shakespeare's seminal plays: Romeo and Juliet. They will explore and perform this play with the focus on all types of love and continue to enhance their understanding of the Elizabethan
studying a range of non-fiction writing which will focus on a range of contextual factors such as the Poor Law, workhouses, and education. Students will then further develop their creative writing skills through developing their own Victorian villains and settings. Students will build on their speaking and listening skills by exploring the idea of charity and responsibility.	writing. Students will study the history and context of China to challenge our ideas and expectations and to better their understanding of the characters in the text. Alongside this, students will study other texts that subvert the fairy tale genre such as extracts from Angela Carter's 'Bloody Chamber' and the Grimm Fairy Tales. Students will consider the idea of individualism when they are discussing the text and consider what is more important: society or the individual.	era. They will have the opportunity to perform key scenes from the play and use it as an opportunity to hone their narrative and descriptive writing skills. Alongside the play, students will study a range of poetry which focuses on different aspects of love ranging from Thomas Hardy to Simon Armitage.

<b>Year 9 Curriculum</b>		
<b>Autumn Term</b>	<b>Spring Term</b>	<b>Summer Term</b>
<b>Autumn 1 and 2</b>	<b>Spring 1</b>	<b>Summer 1 and 2</b>
<p><b>Big Idea: To understand the power of change</b></p> <p>At the start of Year 9, students will study Malorie Blackman's ground-breaking novel: Noughts and Crosses. Students will study the novel alongside a range of</p>	<p><b>Big idea: To understand the power of education</b></p> <p>Students will study 'Blood Brothers' and explore the lives of Edward and Mickey. Students will consider the context of Liverpool with a particular focus on: education, employment, and politics.</p>	<p><b>Big idea: To understand Shakespeare's influence on literature</b></p> <p>At the end of Y9, students will explore one of Shakespeare's most influential tragedies: Macbeth.</p>

<p>poems from the colonial era, to post-colonial to current movements such as Black Lives Matter. Students will use this knowledge and contextual understanding to write their own narrative writing and create their own protest poetry.</p> <p>Students will continue to develop their speaking and listening skills through debating a range of statements and ideas, as well as performing monologues.</p>	<p>Students will use the play to develop their nonfiction writing and enhance their skills for writing to argue and writing to persuade.</p> <p>Students will perform key scenes from the play as well as debate key issues within the play.</p>	<p>Students will consider the shift in society during the Jacobean era and how this influenced Shakespeare's writing. They will use the play as a starting point to consider how power and conflict is portrayed throughout literature with a focus on war. Students will study a range of poems from the Crimean war to modern warfare and consider changing attitudes and ideas. They will use the play and poems to develop their descriptive writing skills using key scenes and settings. Finally, they will continue to develop their speaking and listening skills by debating the influence of Lady Macbeth.</p>
	<p><b>Spring 2</b></p> <p><b>Big idea: To understand the power of the written word</b></p> <p>Students will study a range of non-fiction transactional writing. They focus on the writers' attitudes and ideas, use of language and structure of the texts. They will use the texts to better understand the context of the writing. Students will then use this to apply the skills to their own writing.</p>	