

## Year 8 ENGLISH Curriculum Map

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic Overview	Fiction: 'Lord of the Flies'	Non-Fiction: Writers through Time	Poetry: Romantics to Victorians	A Taste of Dickens	Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet'	Drop everything and read – modern fiction
Focus	Students begin the year with a novel that focuses on the themes of civilization and anarchy, individualism and collectivism and democracy and tyranny, shaped by its context of post-World War II era Britain and the Cold War. Students revise subject specific terminology as well as how to apply this to a text. Students practice their analytical essay writing skills and the use of discourse markers to structure their ideas and evaluations. Students learn how to apply contextual information about the novel to further their views.	Continuing the focus of texts in context, students study the works of seminal writers such as Mary Seacole, Frederick Engels, George Orwell and Margaret Atwood. By exploring how writers present their ideas and concerns through social commentary, students analyse how meanings are shaped by context and literary style.	Students focus on the social and historical context of Romantic poetry, exploring how events including American Independence, the French Revolution and the reign of George III formed the backdrop to this literary movement. Poetry as a form of protest is explored through the presentation of slavery and abolition in the Victorian era. Students revise aspects of poetic form, rhyme and metre as well as the use of imagery to convey meanings. Students learn how to approach and interpret an unseen poem.	Students continue to move through time with the study of a selection of extracts from Dickens' novels. They are familiarised with the more challenging style of nineteenth century literature. They learn how Dickens used his fiction to reflect the reality of life in Victorian England. Students undertake close analysis of Dickens' language and learn new vocabulary.	Through this play, students build on their knowledge of Elizabethan England and Shakespeare's stage craft and language. Through the themes of the individual and society, the power of patriarchy and the qualities of Romantic love students learn the conventions of tragedy. Alongside performing sections from the play, students undertake close annotation of soliloquys and scenes.	Finally, students' love of literature will be celebrated with a compelling modern novel. Students will undertake discussions and debates about issues arising from the text and be immersed in the process of reading for pleasure as well as focusing on their intonation, expression and fluency in order to build confidence in reading aloud. Furthermore, students will develop their resilience, imagination and independence through a wide selection of thought-provoking writing tasks and topics.
Assessment	Essay evaluating the writer's presentation of a character in an extract from 'Lord of the Flies'. A piece of descriptive writing using an image as a stimulus.	Resource based essay comparing how the writers of two non-fiction texts convey differing viewpoints. A piece of social commentary in which students will adopt a persona and explain their viewpoint in a speech to their class.	Essay comparing how poets from different time periods use language and structure to present their ideas. A piece of narrative writing based on a character from one of the poems studied.	Short essay-style answer evaluating how Dickens uses language to create vivid settings and characters. A chapter opening in which students adopt Dickens' style of writing.	Essay analysing Shakespeare's presentation of a character in a chosen extract and the play as a whole.	