

### **The Year 7 English Curriculum broadly follows the theme of 'British Literature'.**

1. 'Boy' Autobiography unit: Using Roald Dahl's childhood autobiography as a basis, students will explore and analyse a variety of non-fiction writing techniques and skills as an introduction to English at Hobart. This will lead towards extended writing using the key features of autobiographies.
2. 'A Christmas Carol' unit: Students will study Dickens' famous publication in order to develop familiarity with some of the challenging language they will encounter at GCSE level. The unit will include research into Victorian society, Dickens' life and 19<sup>th</sup> century London.
3. 'Romeo and Juliet' unit: The study of Shakespeare at Key Stage 3 begins with his famous and tragic love story. Students will read the entire play, analyse a range of extracts and develop writing skills using characters and events as a starting point.
4. Poetry unit: Students will be introduced to a variety of poetic devices through the study of a selection of carefully-chosen poetry, designed to challenge and inspire. They will also develop skills in responding to 'unseen' poetry.
5. 'The Boy In Striped Pyjamas' unit: Through the close reading and analysis of UEA graduate, John Boyne's world-famous text, students will also learn about the tragic history of the Holocaust and draw inspiration for writing activities such as survivor testimonies.
6. At the end of the year, students will prepare for and sit a timed exam based on the first section of the GCSE Language 1 paper. This will be marked and fed back by class teachers.

### **The Year 8 English Curriculum broadly follows the theme of 'Gothic Literature'.**

1. 'The Woman in Black' unit: Reading and analysis of this text will enable students to respond to some challenging language, in addition to exploring the conventions of gothic horror. They will demonstrate their understanding of these features through a variety of creative writing activities and close textual analysis.
2. 'Heroes & Villains' Poetry unit: Students will build on their knowledge of poetic techniques through studying and comparing a selection of GCSE-standard poetry based on the common theme of 'Heroes & Villains'. This will help prepare students for the 'Conflict' cluster in the GCSE anthology.
3. 'Frankenstein' unit: The Year 8 19<sup>th</sup>-century text is Mary Shelley's famous gothic novel. Students will learn about Victorian sensibilities and the conflict between science and religion during this period. They will also respond to exam-style questions in the form of extract-based analysis.
4. 'Gothic Writing' unit: Students will combine their knowledge of gothic texts to produce a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction writing in the gothic style. This unit, as with every unit across KS3, will include heavy emphasis on developing accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar.
5. 'Macbeth' unit: The study of Shakespeare continues in Year 8 with 'the Scottish play'. Students will pay close attention to language and structure analysis, reading the entire play and focusing on key extracts in the style of the GCSE exam. They will also learn about the context of 'Macbeth', including witchcraft in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, James I and the Gunpowder Plot.
6. At the end of the year, students will prepare for and sit a timed exam based on the second section of the GCSE Language 1 paper. This will be marked and fed back by class teachers.

**The Year 9 English Curriculum broadly follows the theme of 'American Literature and Racial Tension'.**

1. 'Of Mice and Men' unit: To fully engage with Steinbeck's novella, students will explore the issues of segregation, the Great Depression, the role of women in the 1930s and the lives of migrant workers in the USA. They will analyse language and structure within the text and develop writing skills by using characters as a stimulus for creative writing.
2. 'Othello' unit: The theme of 'racial tension' is fully explored in the Year 9 Shakespeare play. Students will consolidate their understanding of Shakespearian language by showing independence and critical thinking when responding to a variety of extracts within the play.
3. 'Character and Voice Poetry' unit: Using the outgoing GCSE anthology, 'Moon on the Tides', students will have access to a range of challenging and stimulating poems that explore themes such as isolation, identity and loss. They will develop skills of comparison in addition to the ability to respond to 'unseen' poetry.
4. 'To Kill a Mockingbird' unit: Year 9's text from the literary canon is Harper Lee's classic. Students will have the opportunity to read the entire text, analysing extracts and honing their writing skills through the study of issues including the treatment of black people and the attitudes of U.S. society.
5. 'Heroes & Villains Writing' unit: Picking up on the theme from Year 8, students will be able to develop an understanding of a wide variety of writing disciplines such as blogs, news articles, descriptive passages and reviews. A variety of stimuli, including recent news events, will be used to generate engagement with writing.
6. At the end of the year, students will prepare for and sit a timed exam based on the GCSE Language 2 paper. This will be marked and fed back by class teachers.

**The GCSE English Language and Literature course follows the AQA exam specification.**

1. Students begin the new GCSE course by studying Stevenson's 'Jekyll and Hyde' or Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol', reading the entire novel and analysing a range of carefully-selected extracts. The context of the novel is also explored in-depth.
2. Students will begin to analyse GCSE poetry in the second part of the Autumn term in year 10 and will continue to revisit poetry throughout years 10 and 11. This will include studying the GCSE Anthology cluster of 'Conflict' poems, developing skills of analysis and comparison, in addition to honing responses to 'unseen' poetry.
3. The Spring Term of Year 10 will see students focusing on the skills required for the AQA Language 1 paper. This will involve developing a wide range of reading and writing skills.
4. The Summer Term of Year 10 will focus on the Shakespeare play, 'Macbeth'. Students will be required to demonstrate in-depth understanding of language and structure, in addition to a thorough knowledge of context.
5. Students will begin Year 11 by concentrating on 'Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives', learning and developing essential skills for the Language 2 paper. This will include exploring a broad range of non-fiction articles.
6. In the Spring Term of Year 11, students will read and analyse 'Lord of the Flies', focusing on close language analysis and considering the intentions of William Golding throughout.