



**Curriculum Intent:** English

**Motto:** Ausculta

**Mission Statement:** Living, Loving and Learning through Christ.

#### Theological Virtues

**Faith:** The virtue by which we believe in God.

**Hope:** The virtue by which we trust God.

**Love (Charity):** The virtue by which we love God.

#### Mission Statement Delivery:

- The curriculum is crafted to enhance students' lives through the study of English Language and Literature, fulfilling the St Joseph's Mission statement of "Living, loving, learning through Christ."
- **Engagement and Inspiration:** Emphasis on making learning fun and inspiring a love of reading and knowledge.
- **KS3 Curriculum:** Built around the National Curriculum, tailored to student needs, with overarching themes each year to explore individual roles in society.
- **Oracy Focus:** Strong emphasis on verbal expression and confidence, starting with a study of Spoken Language in Year 7 and termly oracy assessments.
- **Thematic Learning:** Year 7 focuses on identity and culture, Year 8 on power, and Year 9 on genres and social issues like knife crime and social inequality.
- **Virtues:** Embedded throughout KS3 and KS4, with a focus on vocabulary growth and understanding the JPP ethos.
- **Broad and Ambitious Curriculum:** Exposure to a wide range of literature, including live streaming of Shakespeare productions and visits from poets and writers.
- **Cultural Awareness:** Curriculum includes texts from different cultures and time periods, helping students understand culture, identity, and diversity.
- **Sequenced Learning:** Planned to build on prior learning, with a focus on both reading and writing skills, including creative and transactional writing.
- **Inclusive Approach:** Adaptations for different learning needs, with a focus on developing key skills and understanding social, historical, and cultural contexts.
- **Form Time Reading:** Year 7 form groups focus on reading to build comprehension, inference, and vocabulary skills.
- **Targeted Support at KS4:** Strategic setting and differentiated novel choices, with additional tutoring for Year 11 students, especially those needing extra support.
- **Building on Prior Learning:** By contacting partner primaries, you've effectively identified and addressed gaps in students' knowledge, ensuring a smooth transition from KS2 to KS3.
- **Consolidation at KS4:** "Throwback Thursday" lessons and low-stakes recall quizzes on SENECA help reinforce prior learning and ensure continuous revision.



- **Interleaving Skills:** Integrating Literature and Language skills throughout the year, such as using literature extracts for language analysis, helps students make connections between different areas of study.
- **Enrichment Opportunities:** The introduction of enrichment booklets at KS3 encourages independent learning and rewards students who go above and beyond.
- **Celebrating Literature:** Events like World Book Day and National Poetry Day, along with planned theatre trips and author visits, foster a love of literature and reading.
- **Drop Down Days:** These days provide exposure to a variety of texts, enhancing students' social, historical, and contextual knowledge.
- **Passionate Reading:** Assigning English teachers as form tutors for Year 7 ensures that reading is conducted with enthusiasm and skilled questioning, building a strong foundation in comprehension and vocabulary.

**To achieve our Mission Statement, our curriculum:**

- **Catholic Values:** The curriculum integrates Catholic values through literature discussions and JPP words, promoting compassion, ambition, and excellence.
- **Positive Learning Environment:** High expectations and mutual respect between staff and students contribute to a positive learning environment with minimal behaviour issues.
- **Oracy Development:** Opportunities for oracy are built into KS3 and KS4, with assessments and homework tasks designed to enhance students' verbal communication skills.
- **Reading for Pleasure:** Promoting reading through shared reading lists, social media recommendations, and the "Reading for Success" scheme encourages a love of literature.
- **Writing Excellence:** High expectations for writing are maintained through 'slow writing tasks' and adherence to the school's writing standards.
- **Differentiated Curriculum:** The curriculum is tailored to meet the needs of all students, including SEND and PP students, ensuring everyone makes good progress.
- **Experienced Staff:** The department benefits from the expertise of six English specialists, fostering collaborative planning and professional development.
- **Meta-cognitive Strategies:** Techniques like mind-mapping, dialogic teaching, and 'thinking out loud' help students understand and apply their learning effectively.
- **Review and Reflection:** Regular opportunities for reviewing learning, such as Flashback and Throwback lessons, quizzes, and knowledge tests, help consolidate knowledge.
- **Assessment Opportunities:** Structured assessments each half term, including practice and unseen assessments, ensure students can demonstrate their knowledge and skills.

