

# Key Stage 3 - English

## Intent

The vision for KS3 English is to foster a lifelong love of language and literature, empowering students to become confident, articulate, and critical thinkers. We aim for pupils to develop strong reading, writing, and spoken language skills, enabling them to understand and engage with the world around them. Through a diverse and inclusive curriculum, students explore a wide range of texts, from classic literature to contemporary voices, building empathy, cultural awareness, and analytical thinking. KS3 English at the Marches also supports the whole-school curriculum intent by strengthening literacy across subjects, enhancing personal development through discussion and reflection, and building cultural capital through exposure to a rich literary heritage.

## Implementation

The KS3 English curriculum is delivered through a mix of direct instruction, collaborative learning, independent tasks, and practical application. A spiral structure ensures key concepts are introduced early and revisited with increasing complexity to prepare students for KS4. Cross-trust schemes enhance consistency, and year plans clarify end goals. Knowledge organisers support cumulative knowledge building, while vocabulary and skills develop progressively. Schemes embed formative assessment, retrieval practice, and AFL strategies, including revision symbols to aid teaching. Core skills include oracy, narrative, and transactional writing. Support strategies include Oak Academy resources, data-informed setting, Access Leader support, and differentiated materials.

## Impact

The KS3 English curriculum has a significant and lasting impact on learners by building their confidence, enhancing their literacy skills, and fostering a deep appreciation of language and literature. Progress and attainment are measured through regular formative and summative assessments, including extended writing tasks, reading comprehension, and spoken language activities, which are tracked against our KS3 levels. Knowledge retention and progression are evident through students' ability to analyse increasingly complex texts, write with greater sophistication, and articulate ideas clearly over time. Success in KS3 English is seen when pupils can read critically, write creatively and accurately, and speak with clarity and confidence: skills that prepare them not only for academic success but for life beyond school.

## Assessment

In KS3 English, assessment is central to guiding teaching and supporting progress. Formative strategies (such as questioning, quizzes, peer assessment, and live marking) help identify gaps and adapt teaching. Summative assessments, including reading, writing, and spoken tasks, are scheduled throughout the year and aligned with curriculum goals. Students receive specific verbal and written feedback and are given time in lessons to act on it, encouraging reflection and improvement. This ongoing cycle ensures students develop key skills and make sustained progress.