

Head of Department: Miss D Power

Key Stage 3

At Phoenix Academy, we follow a bespoke and rigorous English curriculum supplied by Future Academies. This curriculum allows our students to study a range of classic literature through the lens of great and classic works. As students move through the chronological curriculum, the narrative of the development of the English literary tradition gradually unfurls. Students' writing skills and knowledge of English grammar are also developed within this scheme, and these are taught explicitly as well as with reference to texts studied. The aim of the course is to promote the highest standards of literacy and communication skills, as well as to develop students' appreciation of the literary culture that has shaped the world in which we live. Our ultimate goal is that students will leave us with a life-long love of literature and reading that they can take forward with them into their future lives. At Key Stage 3, texts studied range from the Ancient Greek Epic The Odyssey, to the plays of William Shakespeare, and to George Orwell's dystopian classic, 1984.

Key Stage 4

All students at Phoenix Academy study both English language and literature at GCSE. We follow the AQA specification for both courses.

The study of English language helps students to develop their skills of writing, reading, speaking, and listening. Students focus on comprehension and analysis tasks, as well as on personal writing and composition.

The study of English literature enables students to read a variety of different texts, developing their analytical skills and aiding the development of their ability to write fluently, articulately and creatively. Students will leave Year 11 as highly confident and eloquent individuals who are to successfully formulate and justify their own opinions. At Phoenix Academy, our focus is on providing access to high-quality, classic texts, and students might study Shakespeare's Macbeth, Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, alongside a variety of poems.