

# English department

## About us

At ASA, the English curriculum is designed to be both ambitious and aspirational, fully compliant with the National Curriculum. It aims to provide a rich and diverse learning experience where every child can see themselves reflected in the texts, themes, and perspectives studied. By embracing a wide range of literary works and genres, the curriculum fosters inclusivity, ensuring students from all backgrounds feel represented. It prioritises high academic standards, encouraging critical thinking, creativity, and effective communication. The goal is to empower students to excel academically, build confidence, and prosper in their future endeavors. We are a team who are committed to inspiring students to have the same love of Literature, Language and learning as we do..

## Our lessons

Lessons follow a structured approach: Connect, I Do, We Do, You Do, and Independent Learning Zone. Students explore questions, investigate concepts, and develop critical thinking, fostering deeper understanding of the world around them through guided practice and independent exploration.

## Areas for development

- Promoting a culture of resilience through the use of the ILZ
- Ensuring progress of all learners (including SEND and PP learners) by weaving the golden threads of the inclusive classroom strategy are in all lessons
- Reading for pleasure

## Our ambitious and inspiring curriculum for all

The KS3 curriculum begins with students exploring classic literary heritage texts, then evolving to see themselves in contemporary works. They practise various writing styles, including narrative and persuasive texts, whilst honing rhetoric and expression, fostering confident, reflective writers and critical thinkers.

The KS4 English Language and Literature curriculum offers a robust programme, featuring *Macbeth*, *Blood Brothers*, *A Christmas Carol*, and poetry on themes of power and conflict. Students explore ambition, class, and morality while practicing analytical, creative, and persuasive writing. This curriculum develops critical thinking and communication skills for academic success and real-world challenges.

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## **Our curriculum intent**

Our goal at ASA is to have students leave who are functionally literate and able to decode the world around them. We hope to foster their skills of comprehension, critical thinking and reasoning through our curriculum.

## **Marking and feedback**

Students receive regular teacher feedback on work in lesson and formal marking of assessment work occurs once per half term.

## **Quality assurance**

Lessons are centrally planned and undergo robust QA through the department leaders. Each unit is reflected upon, evaluated and revisited every year.

## **Curriculum enrichment**

The department regularly host enrichment opportunities ranging from writing clubs on a lunchtime to running competitions with national publications. We are hosting 4 theatre company visits for KS4.

## **Intervention**

Intervention for KS4 happens every morning with specialist English tutors working to address misconceptions and capitalise on marginal gains.

We also offer L6 revision for Y11 every Wednesday.

## **Home learning**

Home learning is conducted through Google classroom, GCSE pod and Reading Plus.