English

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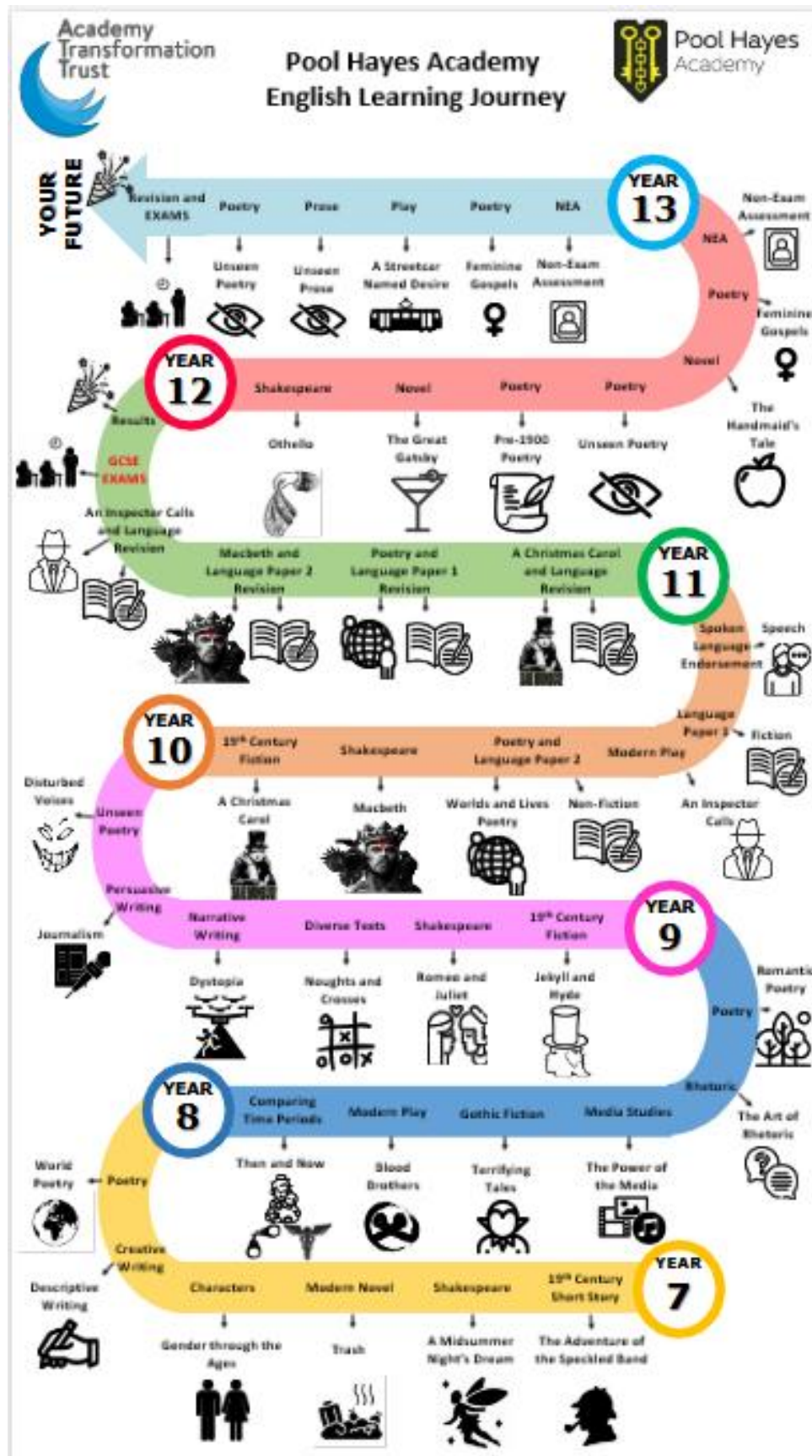
Subject Intent:

At Pool Hayes Academy our curriculum:

- Has a pivotal role in developing pupils' communication skills across the curriculum and ensuring success in our academy.

- Will allow pupils to speak and write fluently and confidently so that they are able to communicate their ideas and feelings effectively.

- Allows pupils to read a variety of texts and will ensure pupils develop critically, culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually.

- Actively encourages pupils to vocalise their thoughts and feelings on the big ideas and concepts explored in fiction and non-fiction texts and develops their cultural capital by exposing them to a wealth of Literature forms from different literary periods.

- Will allow pupils to gain an appreciation of different movements within literature and how they are linked and have developed over time.

- Will allow pupils to know how writers, including non-fiction writers, use language and structure texts in a range of genres, to achieve a range of purposes.

- Will allow pupils to become effective writers, able to use language, syntax and structure to achieve effects.

- Will allow our pupils to feel empowered by what they study so that they become better thinkers and more empathetic human beings.

- Will cover the breadth and dept of the 2014 National Curriculum for English.

Learning Journey:

Pool Hayes Academy
English Learning Journey

YEAR 13
Revision and EXAMS | Poetry | Prose | Play | Poetry | NEA | Non-Exam Assessment
Unseen Poetry | Unseen Prose | A Streetcar Named Desire | Feminine Gospels | Non-Exam Assessment
NEA
Poetry
Feminine Gospels

YEAR 12
Shakespeare | Novel | Poetry | Poetry | Novel
Results | Othello | The Great Gatsby | Pre-1900 Poetry | Unseen Poetry | The Handmaid's Tale
GCSE EXAMS

YEAR 11
An Inspector Calls and Language Revision | Macbeth and Language Paper 2 Revision | Poetry and Language Paper 1 Revision | A Christmas Carol and Language Revision
Spoken Language Endorsement | Speech
Language Paper 1 | Fiction

YEAR 10
19th Century Fiction | Shakespeare | Poetry and Language Paper 2 | Modern Play
Disturbed Voices | Unseen Poetry | A Christmas Carol | Macbeth | Worlds and Lives Poetry | Non-Fiction | An Inspector Calls

YEAR 9
Persuasive Writing | Narrative Writing | Diverse Texts | Shakespeare | 19th Century Fiction
Journalism | Dystopia | Noughts and Crosses | Romeo and Juliet | Jekyll and Hyde
Romantic Poetry | Poetry
Rhetoric | The Art of Rhetoric

YEAR 8
Comparing Time Periods | Modern Play | Gothic Fiction | Media Studies
World Poetry | Poetry | Then and Now | Blood Brothers | Terrifying Tales | The Power of the Media

YEAR 7
Creative Writing | Characters | Modern Novel | Shakespeare | 19th Century Short Story
Descriptive Writing | Gender through the Ages | Trash | A Midsummer Night's Dream | The Adventure of the Speckled Band

YOUR FUTURE

English

Links to curriculum map:

Assessment outline:

Formative assessment is a type of assessment used throughout the learning process to monitor student progress and provide feedback, aiming to improve both teaching and learning. It's not about assigning grades, but about helping students understand their strengths and weaknesses and how they can improve.

Summative assessments are evaluations conducted at the end of a learning period, such as a unit, course, or program, to assess a student's overall understanding and achievement. They are designed to gauge what a student has learned and whether they have met specific learning objectives.

Formative:

- Cold-calling in lessons
- Mini-whiteboard tasks
- Peer assessment
- Self-assessment
- Debate
- Quizzes

Summative:

- Essays exploring a theme and/or character in a Literature text.
- Descriptive writing
- Transactional writing
- Speaking and Listening assessments
- Analysis of language, form and structure
- Evaluation
- Comparing perspectives across texts

Trips that are used to support the curriculum:

- Poetry Live
- Royal Shakespeare Company

Extra-curricular activities:

- Film/Media Club
- Journalling Club

English

Career Links

- Education/Academia (Teacher, Lecturer, Advisor)
- Writer
- Publishing and Journalism
- Media, communications and marketing (PR, Social Media, Researcher)
- Creative Industry (Producer, Playwright, Theatre Admin)
- Law and Public Service

Our Pupil Pledge:

At Pool Hayes Academy, our English curriculum is a source of genuine pride. It is ambitious, inclusive, and intellectually rich, built on the belief that every student deserves to find their voice, expand their worldview, and leave school as a confident communicator and critical thinker.

1. Breadth, Depth, and Diversity

We are proud to offer a curriculum that spans time, culture, and genre. Our students engage with a thoughtfully curated blend of classic texts and contemporary voices. From Shakespeare and 19th-century literature to modern poetry, global fiction, and non-fiction, we ensure that all students experience the power and variety of the written word. We are committed to broadening perspectives and celebrating difference through the literature we teach.

2. Developing Thinking, Not Just Answers

Our curriculum is designed to foster curiosity and independent thought. Students are encouraged to question, interpret, debate, and challenge ideas. Through analytical writing, discussion, and close reading, we support them in developing both academic rigour and intellectual independence. We believe that English is not just about arriving at the right answer—but about learning how to think.

3. Real, Relevant, and Purposeful Writing

We are proud of the way our curriculum nurtures writing that feels meaningful and relevant. Students write creatively, persuasively, and reflectively, with a focus on audience, purpose, and style. From crafting compelling narratives to constructing powerful arguments, we support students in developing a strong, authentic voice—both on the page and in spoken language.

4. Language Empowerment

Our department places language at the heart of learning. We teach students to understand and use language with precision and confidence, equipping them with the vocabulary and tools to read deeply and write effectively. We explore how language shapes identity, power, and communication, helping students to see themselves as both users and analysts of language.

5. Inclusion and Access for All

We are proud that our curriculum is designed to include and empower every learner. We believe that English should be both accessible and aspirational. Through differentiated approaches and inclusive teaching strategies, we ensure that all students, including those with SEND and EAL, can thrive. Representation, voice, and belonging are key principles in how we teach and what we teach.

English

6. Emotional and Cultural Literacy

Our curriculum supports not just academic progress but also personal development. Through the stories we study and the discussions we lead, students develop empathy, resilience, and emotional insight. English is a space for students to reflect on themselves and their place in the world—past, present, and future.

7. Preparation for the Future

Finally, we are proud that our curriculum prepares students for life beyond the classroom. Whether they go on to further study, employment, or other pathways, our students leave with the confidence to express themselves clearly, think critically, and engage thoughtfully with the world around them. Above all, we aim to instil a lifelong love of reading and learning.