

<u>Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools</u>	
<i>Disciplinary literacy is an approach to improving literacy across the curriculum. It recognises that literacy skills are both general and subject specific, emphasising the value of supporting teachers in every subject to teach students how to read, write and communicate effectively in their subjects.</i>	
EEF Recommendation	What we do at Pool Hayes Academy
Prioritise 'disciplinary literacy' across the curriculum	Disciplinary literacy is at the heart of the Pool Hayes Lesson with a focus on a language rich classrooms. Students also get the opportunity for guided reading and comprehension tasks within their form time activities.
Provide targeted vocabulary instruction in every subject	Every lesson that is delivered at Pool Hayes has key word focuses, and these are taught the meaning and definitions of these. Staff have a wide knowledge in Tier 2 and Tier 3 vocabulary and this is demonstrated to our students. Within Trust wide assessments there is a focus on Tier 3 word knowledge within each subject area.
Develop students' ability to read complex academic texts	Students get the opportunity to access complex texts within their lessons – this is part of their journey towards their GCSE's. Staff and students work together to break down the meaning of this text for student understanding. Students build their reading ability not just within English lessons but within form time, Sparx reader sessions, and through independent learner activities.
Break down complex writing tasks	Within lessons we use the 'I do, We do, You do' model for writing scaffolding – and allowing students to build up the skills to write independently for long periods of time.
Combine writing instruction with reading in every subject	Modelling of text towards answers and writing frames allows students to develop mental models of what they need to achieve. Every task given in class is supported with a written task that is always explained. Students are taught to recognise features, aims and conventions of good writing within each subject. Within our marking policy we have a SPaG focus that is applied to each subject area.
Provide opportunities for structured talk	Discussion and reflection time is built into lessons to allow students to 'talk like an expert', and to use and develop vocabulary skills. Checking for understanding throughout a lesson also allows students to vocalise their learning.
Provide high quality literacy interventions for struggling students	Students are assessed on their reading ability through two different platforms to give us robust data. This data then breaks down the barrier for each child and a tailored intervention programme can then be developed. Intervention takes place in numerous ways here – through intervention sessions, SEN sessions, Sparx reader programme, library intervention sessions, and a literacy form.

