



Department:

English

Year 7 Course summary:

### Topics Studied

Each topic provides a range of opportunities to develop reading, writing and speaking skills. Non-fiction and fiction are blended to create a broad and engaging reading diet. The skills of grammar, spelling and punctuation are developed in each unit.

**Autobiography** - Students will read a range of different styles of autobiography and will have the chance to produce personal writing about their own lives.

**Ghost Stories** - Students will think about ghost story structure and the way in which writers use techniques like suspense to engage readers. Ghost stories from a range of different periods will be explored, from some Victorian classics to modern day chillers.

**Myths and Legends** - We will start by focusing on British myths, including the stories of King Arthur, Beowulf and Robin Hood. Students will compare different versions of these tales and think about the language choices that writers make when telling tales.

**Narrative Poetry** - How do we tell stories through verse? The focus will be on reading and a broad range of poems in different styles. There will also be scope for students to perform their own poems or classic narrative poems by other writers.

**War Literature** - Students will read prose, poetry and drama that explores the topic of conflict. Boys will learn about different wars through time and the effect that conflict has on soldiers and their families. Texts will be sensitively selected to reflect the age of boys in the year group.

**Castaway** – This unit will take us on dangerous adventures to explore a range of fiction and non-fiction texts that look at the idea of being a castaway on a desert island or isolation in a more metaphorical sense. We will analyse classic texts like *Robinson Crusoe* and Shakespeare's *The Tempest* alongside modern texts.

IST Assessments:

Students will complete six assessments over the course of the year.

- Two reading assessments –An essay in which students are asked to respond to an extract or whole text using details to support their opinions.
- Two writing assessments –Students have the opportunity to write in a range of different genres, both fiction and non-fiction.
- Speaking – Students will complete one or more assessed piece of speaking over the year. This could be a speech to the class, an explanatory talk, a debate or a piece of drama in response to a text.
- End of year exam – This will assess the core skills of reading and writing in exam conditions.