

English | Year 7 | Writing

Curriculum Core Purpose. Intent

How does this curriculum fit into the OBHS Curriculum Specification? The GCSE assessment Objectives underpin the design of all KS3 units, skills progression and assessments, thereby ensuring that students are equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary to tackle their GCSEs successfully, while also preparing them for the world beyond school. The variety of time periods, cultures and text forms students encounter ensure that this is a rich and diverse curriculum. Writing in Year 7 lays the foundations for a curriculum that develops students' voice, expression, influence and impact.

How is this linked to prior learning? How do units/ topics/ chunks fit together to form the curriculum narrative and prepare students for the next phase of their learning? Writing at KS2 develops accuracy of student writing, and using the main conventions when writing for particular forms and purposes. Year 7 begins by continuing with this approach in the Wonder unit which is a hybrid Reading and Writing unit designed as a diagnostic unit through which teachers can identify and address gaps in students' writing skills. The Journey's unit develops students' descriptive and narrative writing, responding thematically to metaphorical journeys, such as the journey from Primary to Secondary School.

How does this curriculum respond to local and national agendas (e.g. SMSC and BV)? The Journey's unit specifically focuses on physical and emotional journeys providing students the opportunity to explore journeys through the lens of an individual's identity.

Content-Knowledge and Skills.	Subject Specific Pedagogy	Resources and Support
<p>Wonder (Fiction): 'SPaG' (focus determined by class teacher)</p> <p>Journeys (Fiction): 'Impact of Choices (<i>Figurative Language; Vocabulary and connotations, Impacts created with audience in mind; Form (prose and story openings)</i>)' 'SPaG' (focus determined by class teacher)</p> <p>Dragons Den (Non-Fiction) 'Impact of Choices' (<i>Figurative Language; Vocabulary; Connotations; Building sentences and varying openings</i>) and 'Writer's Voice' (<i>Purpose and Audience; Form (prose and story openings)</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examples used to model a concept followed student practice and assessment (peer, teacher, self). 'Build a sentence' to develop use of openings, structures and descriptive devices. Model responses colour-coded and labelled. Thinking out loud / talk before writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Images and video clips are used to introduce new and unfamiliar concepts, and prompt ideas for own writing. A variety of appropriate sentence stems for support and challenge. Planning pro-formas adapted for support and challenge to guide writing and inclusion of specific skills. New language / terminology taught explicitly to develop students' literacy. Vocabulary banks and challenges set to widen student vocabulary.

Feedback, Assessment and Progress

How are students assessed? How does this demonstrate progress? All students sit the same assessment every term. The mark scheme reflects the OBHS use of percentages to identify low, middle and high prior attainment. Marks are recorded as percentages. All writing assessments are extended written tasks which are planned thoroughly in class beforehand to support students in development of ideas and creation of whole-text structures, which they will ultimately need to be able to do independently at GCSE. The assessment is underpinned by the skills progression outline in the English Long Term Plan.

How do children receive feedback on their learning? In line with the OBHS no-pen feedback policy, students receive whole class feedback at least once a fortnight, in the form of next steps, this marking ensures teaching is consistently responsive to student need and all students take ownership for engaging with their next steps. Success criteria is used for self and peer assessment. Students are assessed formally once a half term where individual next steps are given and feedforward into students work in subsequent units.

How is feedback used to inform planning/ SoL? While our medium term plan is well-resourced, in-class AfL and the OBHS no-pen feedback policy is used to inform the direction of teaching and the time allowed for specific concepts during a unit.

Habits

Resilience – proof reading, responding to teacher feedback, applying Next Steps to new contexts;
Collaboration – participate actively in-group discussions, develop active listening skills, and begin to experiment with roles within groups.
Independence – tackle tasks following instructions, judging when help is needed and asking for it.
Ambition – tackling challenge tasks frequently.
Creativity – using information to develop own ideas and opinions.