



English

Our intent



At TLA, we believe the study of English and English Literature is fundamental to students' academic, emotional and social development. We want our young people to be able to express themselves effectively in spoken and written form, in order that they feel heard, seen and valued. Developing informed responses and opinions, both to texts and to real life, is a core part of English at TLA - and one which we believe nurtures the confidence and communication of our students. We believe in the importance of using literature to understand the world in which we live, to empathise with other people and their situations, and to access both untapped and impossible experiences.

Our 'why'

A rich and successful English curriculum empowers students to master the written and spoken word. Communicating with precision and clarity, and being able to adapt communication for a range of situations and forms, enables students to develop in both personal and professional capacities throughout their lives.

As well as being able to communicate effectively, our English curriculum develops students' ability to think critically about the world around them. It allows them to analyse what they read and hear and, in a world where vast quantities of information is at their fingertips, it teaches them to be discerning about the language they consume.

Finally, the diverse and meaningful literature studied by students not only develops their cultural capital, but it allows them to better understand the complex world in which they live: literature develops empathy by exploring a range of perspectives and themes which students will see reflected in their own lives and, more generally, in society.

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Our 'how'

The aim of our curriculum is to give students a rich and diverse experience of language and literature. We want to empower them to master the written and spoken word, to develop empathy and cultural understanding, and to read with a critical and analytical lens. We achieve this through:

- Studying a broad range of challenging, diverse and quality literature;
- Sequencing our curriculum to build on knowledge and skills over time;
- Linking our units through the use of vocabulary and themes which underpin a wider understanding of the purpose of literature and the effects of language;
- Utilising effective formative and meaningful summative assessment to support students' progress;
- Interweaving a range of varied and creative reading and writing tasks;
- Building in structured oracy tasks, such as debates, extended questioning and speech performances;
- Promoting a love of reading, and teaching students how to be effective and active readers;
- Offering a range of trips and workshops designed to complement the curriculum, including theatre trips and poetry workshops.