



What have students at St. Crispin's been taught to understand and be able to do?

Core Skills and Knowledge

Every student enters Year 7 with a unique experience of literacy development. The English curriculum at KS3 is designed to ensure that pupils of all abilities are inspired to enjoy reading, writing, speaking and listening at a high standard. We also aim to develop these skills for each child by presenting them with challenges at a steadily increasing level, so that they grow in confidence and acquire the necessary independence to succeed at KS4. Pupils are taught in sets to allow teachers to adapt the level of challenge to suit the needs of their group.

In Year 7 it is essential that pupils are encouraged to enjoy the many aspects of English and develop attitudes to literacy that will ensure the lifelong love of language which leads to success in adulthood. In Year 7, most pupils will still be developing their comprehension and inference skills and learning to use technical terms to identify different texts and their features. Some will be able to go further, explaining writers' choices and selecting specific techniques to use for themselves.

Writing with skill and accuracy is a constant focus. Pupils develop their vocabulary through regular word lists designed to equip them to express more sophisticated ideas as they write in increasingly ambitious ways. Spelling and punctuation skills are reinforced throughout Year 7, with specific revision of relevant skills prior to assessment.

Reading for pleasure

Pupils make regular visits to the school library and are guided to select private reading books that lead them to be more and more ambitious. Private reading is encouraged, monitored and rewarded in a range of ways, including the Accelerated Reader app. Class readers such as A Series of Unfortunate Events are selected to inspire children's enjoyment of reading aloud.

Reading classic English Literary texts

Pupils will have opportunities to read famous texts from our literary history, such as Alice in Wonderland. They will be shown how to cope with the challenges of older texts.

Reading texts to explore diversity for younger readers such as The Boy at the Back of the Class and Asher is a Rock Star.

Poetry is read and written with an emphasis on different poetic forms. Pupils will write and respond to poetry in a supportive environment as they learn about its features.

Non-fiction texts are read and written with an emphasis on the conventions of different text types, such as newspapers or leaflets.

Creative writing with an emphasis on lively, fun adventure stories and the use of genre features such as the surreal quality of Alice in Wonderland or the fantasy realms of Tolkien.



Year 7 English continued



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Shakespeare's comedy is read and performed by pupils. A range of activities will allow them to learn about the international cultural importance of Shakespeare and the way his comedies engage and entertain audiences.

Speaking and listening skills are developed with an emphasis on group presentations, allowing pupils to support each other and express their ideas in a controlled and effective way.

How has learning been assessed?

Students will be assessed in a variety of ways e.g. verbally through questioning in class, through multiple choice quizzes, comprehension questions, short written responses and formal assessments completed in class that are accessible and proportionate to year seven pupils' level of maturity. Tasks are 'scaffolded' as necessary and pupils will complete them in a supportive environment. Assessments will only be set after students have been taught the knowledge and skills needed to complete them successfully.