

English Key Stage 3

Idsall has an excellent Library and Key Stage 3 students are encouraged to make extensive use of it. Reading is a highly valued activity and students are given a recommended reading list for each of the first three years. The books listed are not essential for study but have been chosen because they are well written and enjoyable to read. Our aim is to extend the range of choice available for private reading and to encourage students to develop the habit of reading widely for pleasure. We use the Accelerated Reader system to support and celebrate students' reading.

We expect our students to read regularly at home and complete Accelerated Reader quizzes after each AR book that they finish. Pupils have book points targets on Accelerated Reader that they are expected to achieve each term.

It is very helpful for students to carry with them, at all times, a small, lightweight dictionary and thesaurus. The Collins Gem Dictionary and the Oxford Mini Dictionary are both excellent and have durable, plastic covers. Similarly, we recommend the Collins Gem Thesaurus. We recommend the following book for all Year Groups:

Help Your Kids with English: A Unique Step-by-Step Visual Guide

ISBN: 978-1409314943

We encourage students to word process some of the work which they submit for assessment. They are also expected to have a supply of pens and pencils, and would benefit from having crayons and highlighters for use within lessons. Usually, fountain or cartridge pens aid good presentation, but some students find fibre tips or roller ball pens more convenient. Biro's tend to be more suitable for rough work, but are, of course, always useful.

English in Years 7 & 8

Throughout both years, students will also complete a number of other tasks (including letter/leaflet writing, creative writing and reading of another novel) but this is left to the discretion of the class teacher. Each term, Practice Papers to test writing and comprehension skills are also set and assessed.

Topics Covered per Half Term Year 7

Term	Topics	Assessment
Autumn 1	<p>Library Lessons + Novella 'Once'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot • Character • Setting • Themes • Social Context • Vocabulary • Use of Quotations • Library Skills Assessment – Reading 	<p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'All Aboard': Students read article 1 – Rescue at Sea • Respond to questions 1-7 in answer booklet
Autumn 2	<p>Non-fiction 'Fireworks'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form • Persuasive techniques • Tone • Structuring an argument • Paragraphing • Sentences • Vocabulary • Spelling Assessment - Writing 	<p>Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the Lifeboats' • Students complete planning sheet and write on A4 Spring 2: Topic 'Poetry'
Spring 1	<p>'Shakespeare' ('The Tempest')</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot • Character • Setting • Themes • Social Context • Theatre Conventions • Vocabulary • Use of Quotations 	<p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'All Aboard': Students read article 2 – Exciting? Or just plain irresponsible? • Respond to questions 8 – 13 in answer booklet Summer 1: Topic: Novel

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structured Response 	
Spring 2	<p>Poetry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form • Structure • Meaning • Figurative Language • Social Context • Use of Quotations • Structured Response <p>Own Poetry Assessment –</p>	<p>Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Working Together’ • Students complete planning sheet and write on A4 Summer
Summer 1	<p>Novel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot • Character • Setting • Themes • Social Context • Vocabulary • Inference • Use of Quotations • Structured Response 	<p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘All Aboard’: Students read article 3 – Danger at Sea • Respond to questions 14 – 27 in answer booklet
Summer 2	<p>Film Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mise-en-scene • Character • Plot • Setting • Narrative Structure • Focus (camera) • Performance Skills 	<p>Spoken Language</p>

Topics Covered per Half Term Year 8

Term	Topics	Assessment
Autumn 1	<p>Poetry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaning • Form • Theme • Inference • Literary Features /Techniques • Social Context • Use of Quotations • Structure a response 	<p>Reading</p> <p>‘Out of the Ordinary’:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students read article 1 – In the Attic • Respond to questions 1-8 in answer booklet Spring 1:
Autumn 2	<p>Novel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Comprehension • Narrative Structures • Plot • Character • Theme • Social Context • Use of Quotations• Structured Response Assessment 	<p>Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘That Reminds Me...’ • Students complete planning sheet and write on A4
Spring 1	<p>‘Play’ – ‘Our Day Out’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot • Character • Setting • Themes • Social Context • Vocabulary • Dramatic Techniques • Use of Quotations • Structured Response Assessment 	<p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Out of the Ordinary’ • Students read article 2 – Night Music • Respond to questions 9-14 in answer booklet
Spring 2		<p>Writing</p>

	Travel Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genre • Style • Tone • Content • Structure • Vocabulary • Paragraphing • Sentences • Spelling Assessment 	'Time Capsule' Students complete planning sheet and write on A4
Summer 1	Shakespeare 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot • Character • Setting • Themes • Social Context • Use of Quotations • Vocabulary • Dramatic Techniques • Theatre Conventions 	Reading 'Out of the Ordinary'; Students read article 3 – How do we fill our day? Respond to questions 15 – 22 in answer booklet
Summer 2	Creative Writing 'Adventure Story' <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genre • Style • Structure • Opening Hook • Paragraphing • Sentences • Vocabulary • Figurative Language 	Spelling Assessment – Spoken Language

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Punctuation	
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English in Year 9

The Year 9 curriculum has been designed to provide a firm basis for study at GCSE as a number of tasks mirror those that will be encountered in Years 10 and 11. This also includes using GCSE style mark schemes and assessments. As with Years 7 and 8, Practice Papers will be used each term to test writing and comprehension skills.

Topics Covered per Half Term

Term	Topic	Assessment
Autumn 1	Transactional Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persuasive Techniques • Emotive Language • Structuring Writing • Developing Argument • Form • Layout • Sentences • Vocabulary • Punctuation • Grammar • Spelling 	Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Strange Lands’ • Students read article 1 – Journey to the centre of the Earth • Respond to questions 1-5 in answer booklet Spring 1: Topic: Non-fiction ‘Ripper’
Autumn 2	War Poetry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Context • Meaning • Form/Structure • Inference • Figurative Language • Use of Quotations • Structured Response 	Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Part-time jobs’ • Students complete planning sheet and write on A4
Spring 1	Non-fiction ‘Ripper’ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retrieving Information 	Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Strange Lands’

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inference • Analysis • Language • Use of Quotations • Structured Response • Persuasive Language • Comparison of texts • Structured Essay 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students read article 2 – ‘Magnificent Desolation’ • Respond to questions 6-9 in answer booklet
Spring 2	<p>Shakespeare ‘Macbeth’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot • Character • Setting • Themes • Social Context • Vocabulary • Dramatic Technique • Theatre Conventions • Use of Quotations • Structured Response 	<p>Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Talented or Terrible?’ • Students complete planning sheet and write on A4
Summer 1	<p>Horror Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genre • Style • Structure • Opening Hook • Paragraphing • Sentences • Vocabulary • Figurative Language • Punctuation • Grammar 	<p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Strange Lands’ • Students read article 3-Stranger in the City • Respond to questions 10-13 in answer booklet

Summer 2	Novel: 'Of Mice and Men' / 'To Kill A Mocking Bird' <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading Comprehension• Narrative Structures• Plot• Character• Theme• Social Context• Use of Quotations• Structured Response	Spoken Language
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