



Clevedon School English and Media Curriculum: Statement of Intent

“Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel.”-Socrates

Purpose of study:

- Our curriculum gift for all learners is to give them the cultural knowledge, from the Classics to the modern day, to access and engage with a whole school curriculum.
- The texts student experience in their lessons serves to close any cultural gap from outside of school, and facilitates high aspiration across all students.
- English is fundamental to empowering students to read, write, speak and listen with autonomy and confidence, both within school and in the wider community. Students engage with debate and discussion around key cultural texts and concepts.
- We want to ensure pupils understand the crucial role communication plays in all our life experiences.
- English offers students a unique opportunity to know themselves and the wider world through literature.

The Clevedon way promotes character, ambition and community in our curriculum:

- The English curriculum aims to develop pupils' confidence in oracy by engaging with big societal goals and questions.
- Our fundamental aim is to instil a passion for the spoken and written word, and a strong sense of social justice.
- The English curriculum aims to stretch to engage with social development goal four, 'what is quality education?' and take an active role in their own learning.
- This will enable them to become self-motivated citizens that can activate positive change.
- Our curriculum is ambitious because of the high quality and aspirational texts, alongside the expectation that students all students will opt in.
- The English curriculum also aims to ensure students encounter diverse cultures, societies and people through a broad range of diverse texts.
- Clevedon pupils will be able to make an impact on our local, national and global community because of the links that we forge with our local and wider communities through a shared language and investment in the written word.
- Underpinning our curriculum is the study of British values such as democracy which allows all students to listen to and respect each other's unique voice.
- The intention of our curriculum is to embed the Clevedon School values of kindness through creating positive learning environments.
- By developing pupils language skills we enable them to be brilliant at using their voice.

Our curriculum is ambitious for all learners:

- We realise it is crucial to root learning in real life, in order to help pupils see the links between school and the world beyond our walls, as well as prepare them for life after Year 11 and 13. In our subject, we make explicit links with careers, alongside developing key communication skills.
- In order to ensure pupils have the opportunity to continue study at Level 2 or 3 at KS5 (depending on starting point), or to access a subject-related apprenticeship, we ensure that our content is carefully mapped and builds essential skills.
- For pupils who are PP, we ensure we are supporting them to achieve their potential by using the 'five cs' alongside our aspirational curriculum.
- For pupils with SEND, we ensure we maintain high expectations of their potential and progress by forging links between home, student support and English teachers.

- The GCSE curriculum content is especially Euro-centric, and in order to make it relevant for pupils from all backgrounds and faith. For example, the English GCSE curriculum focuses on white male authors and on historical texts. As a consequence, we choose a variety of multi-cultural authors and modern texts with teenage concerns in our 'reading for pleasure' lessons, so that pupils can read about characters and topics that are relevant to them.
- We ensure that pupils who come to us with high prior attainment and high aspirations are stretched and challenged to achieve their goals by using high challenge questioning and tasks in class, further extended with homework and enrichment opportunities.

Our curriculum is sequenced to enable our students to progress to brilliance:

- The curriculum is a progression model which allows students to cycle through content and skills throughout each key stage.
- The curriculum is a 7-year backwards planned curriculum, to ensure pupils can access English Language, Literature and media at KS5 if they choose to.
- We incorporate spaced practice and retrieval such as knowledge recall, carefully sequenced text choices and the use of chronology at KS4 to aid students learning and long-term memory.
- The English curriculum is enquiry driven. Reading plus, Classical Civilisation and Creative and Media lessons offer an opportunity for students to explore big societal and cultural questions.
- We have high ambitions for our PP and SEND students with the expectation that they access the same curriculum as their peers, while also offering a wide range of engaging extra-curricular opportunities.