

LITERACY for all: In English and beyond...

Improved reading, writing, listening, talking and thinking strategies for staff and students include the Teacher Toolkit for planning, drafting, peer assessment, modelling and step by step analysis. It also provides methods for the deconstruction of texts, fully exploring connotations, developing subject specific vocabulary and advanced terminology and piecing together more sustained and refined responses which are coherent and convincing.

Furthermore, extended writing guides are provided for staff and for students, a range of oracy strategies such as Think-Pair-Share, listening comprehensions, Talking Roles, TalkTactics, as well as debates and formal presentations. We also recognise the role of structuring talk to support thinking, reading and writing and actively explore ways to make talk meaningful. The expectations for all staff in supporting literacy across the curriculum are also evident.

	XA7	
Reading	Writing	Oracy
Mapping the Reading	Language of an Expert	Oracy Roadmap through KS3
Curriculum	Writing competitions	Oracy prioritised at KS3
Diagnostic Testing for Year 7	Vocabulary prompts	Talk Mats
Bespoke support for specific	Sentence starters	Visual Prompts
needs	50 Ways to Express Yourself	Consistent Language
Word of the Week	Dictionaries on every desk	Talking Roles
Reading Homework Year for	Thesaurus on every desk	TalkTactics
Year 8 & 9 [Sparx Reader]	Language & Structure Guide	Classroom displays
Book of the Month	Analytical Verb Prompts	Thinking Aloud in Year 8
Accelerated Reader in Year 7	Spelling Age Tests at KS3	Exploratory Talk
Dynamic Reading using media	Grammar Displays	Debates
Digital Library / Audio Books	Student work celebrated	Presentations
Reading Buddies	SPAG marking	Questioning each other

Additional strategies to support literacy:

- Monitored Accelerated Reader lessons
- Word of the Week to stretch vocabulary
- Language of an Expert (to support written expression in all subjects)
- Multi-Media Unit in Year 8 on Creative Persuasion
- Thinking Aloud in Year 8 Reading & Discussion
- Regular comprehension tasks for Year 9 each half term to raise standards

- Visual prompts in classrooms
- Book of the Month display in the entrance foyer
- Continued use of structured student talk
- Dynamic reading using visual media
- Speaking & Listening is included in all units to promote oracy and listening focus
- Reading Champions support reading across school
- Beginning every lesson with quiet independent reading for pleasure

## Further opportunities include:

Author visits and writing competitions (*Tower Poetry, Alfred Hubberman, Mission Chaos, Rydal Mount etc*) provide cross curricular opportunities with other departments (eg History). National Poetry Day focuses on students writing about their favourite subjects at school. The Dove Cottage trip in Year 7 supports students' self-awareness and contextual understanding of their place in the world. We make full use of the Wordsworth Trust by organising visits by Living Poets, a Gothic Workshop in Year 9, Quill Writing for Year 7 and a trip to Lancaster University for Year 10 aimed at raising aspirations towards an English themed career in the future.