

English in Year 7

Curriculum

In KS3, English is taught with the focus on 3 areas:

- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking and listening

During Key Stage 3 the children will be working on a wide range of material, and English in Year 7 includes:

- Creative writing - re-writing a fairy tale
- Inference and deduction skills
- Study of a modern novel – The Giver
- Poetry – a study of poetry over time
- Study of non-fiction writing and writing non-fiction
- Spoken English – speaking about an inspirational person
- Literary fiction – theme of healthy eating with links to PHSE
- English classic novels
- Shakespeare – Romeo and Juliet

All of our pupils study the same curriculum, regardless of class, teacher and group.

You could support by asking your child about the curriculum and what they are studying, maybe even follow some of the areas of study at home e.g. read some poetry together when they are studying poetry; watch Romeo and Juliet together.

Reading

At Pensby, we have a drive towards achieving high standards of literacy in year 7 and staff all follow our literacy policy when marking work so that pupils have consistency across the board – literacy is not just the job of English teachers! Children are expected to be confident, fluent readers with an emphasis on enjoyment, interpretation and comprehension; the children will be working with both texts that we choose and texts that they choose. We aim to make them independent readers who enjoy reading – whatever they choose to read. We expect Pensby pupils to read every day, both in and out of school. A reading book is part of their school equipment.

You can support your child by:

- Asking them to read to you
- Sharing stories

- Asking them what they are reading
- Having a family book club!

We have a 'ready to learn' policy so that we can get started with learning straight away so pupils are expected to have all of their equipment with them and are ready to commence the starter or to read their personal book.

Oracy

Oracy and being able to speak clearly and confidently about their own ideas is very important. We use English, and drama, as a way of encouraging our pupils to read, present and debate in class and we make this the norm. As we have a no hands up policy, all of our pupils need to be ready with an answer! These policies and strategies develop confident young adults who are proud to share their work.

You can support your child by:

- Encouraging them to take part in oral tasks and discussions
- Discussing issues and news with them to help to develop opinions
- Explaining the differences between formal and informal language
- Encouraging them to take part in extra-curricular, especially drama, debate, shows

Homework

Homework should be written in planners so that it is not forgotten about. Homework might be set on our online platform Educake (by a member of the English staff) or set by the class teacher.

Homework must be completed by the deadline date or sanctions will be issued; conversely, rewards will be given for good work and effort.

You can support by:

- Giving the access to space to complete homework
- Encouraging attendance at homework club if help is required
- Supporting homework but not doing it for them