

Curriculum Map

Subject: English Year Group: 8

Conflict - power, persuasion, disagreement and reconciliation

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2 & Summer 1	Summer 2
Content	Persuasive Writing	Animal Farm	Conflict Poetry	Much Ado About Nothing	Creative Writing
Skills	• Construct a clear line of argument • Use rhetoric with control • Anticipate and address counterarguments • Select evidence/examples to support claims • Manipulate tone and register • Craft openings and conclusions	• Track character and idea development across a novella • Analyse allegory and symbolism • Embed quotations judiciously • Explore patterns and contrasts • Connect context to meaning without bolting it on • Write a conceptual thesis and sustain an argument	• Analyse voice, imagery, form and structure • Compare attitudes to conflict • Explore ambiguity and alternative readings • Select concise comparative evidence • Use comparative connectives flexibly • Write comparative thesis-led responses	• Analyse a whole Shakespeare play • Track relationships, deception and conflict • Explore dramatic irony, wit and stagecraft • Analyse patterns in language and imagery • Consider gender, honour and reputation in context • Sustain an argument across extract and whole play	• Control narrative structure and pacing • Create conflict through character and dialogue • Use setting symbolically • Manipulate sentence lengths for effect • Develop a distinctive narrative voice • Edit independently for precision and accuracy
Key questions	• How can language influence an audience? • When does persuasion become manipulation? • How can writers acknowledge opposing views?	• How does Orwell present the corruption of ideals? • How does language become a tool of power? • Why is allegory effective in exploring political conflict?	• How do poets present personal, social and physical conflict? • How can form embody conflict? • What similarities and differences matter in comparison?	• How does Shakespeare present conflict between appearance and reality? • How are gender, honour and reputation contested? • How does comedy move from conflict towards reconciliation?	• How can conflict drive a narrative? • How can writers create tension without over-explaining? • How does structural control shape impact?
Assessment	Persuasive Letter - 45 min - persuasive writing	Animal Farm - 45 min - whole-text analysis	Wilfred Owen Poetry - 45 min - poetry analysis	Much Ado About Nothing - 45 min - formative Shakespeare analysis	End of Year: Much Ado About Nothing - 45 min - whole-play analysis

Year 8 Curriculum Map - continued

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2 & Summer 1	Summer 2
Literacy / SMSC / Character / Cultural Capital	Concepts: rhetoric, power, audience, credibility. Subject vocab: ethos, pathos, logos, anaphora, antithesis, counterargument, tricolon. General vocab: assert, concede, refute, credible, contentious. Cultural capital: traditions of public speaking, campaigning and persuasive non-fiction; ethical use of rhetoric.	Concepts: power, ideology, revolution, corruption, propaganda. Subject vocab: allegory, satire, symbolism, irony, motif, fable, cyclical structure. General vocab: totalitarian, equality, hierarchy, exploitation, indoctrination. Cultural capital: Russian Revolution as contextual background; propaganda and political language; the fable/allegory tradition.	Concepts: conflict, memory, power, identity, loss. Subject vocab: volta, persona, juxtaposition, caesura, enjambment, extended metaphor, form. General vocab: hostility, trauma, resistance, reconciliation, displacement. Cultural capital: poetic responses to war and social conflict from varied periods and cultures.	Concepts: deception, honour, reputation, gender, reconciliation. Subject vocab: dramatic irony, repartee, aside, soliloquy, motif, comic convention, denouement. General vocab: slander, chastity, patriarchal, honour, reconciliation. Cultural capital: early modern attitudes to gender and marriage; Shakespearean comedy and performance; honour culture.	Concepts: conflict, tension, consequence, resolution. Subject vocab: narrative arc, pace, foreshadowing, flashback, motif, dialogue, focalisation. General vocab: volatile, apprehensive, confrontational, consequence, resolution. Cultural capital: reading like a writer; drawing on literary models rather than formulaic plots.

Curriculum progression: reading, writing, oracy, vocabulary and cultural knowledge are revisited with increasing independence and sophistication.