Y7 Supporting Success

Welcome to English

Overview

What we will cover:

- Curriculum
- Literacy
- Homework
- NGRT

Horbury Academy

The Y7 Curriculum

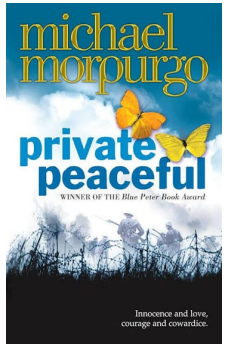
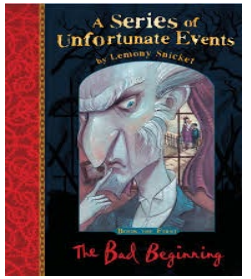
What we will cover this year

- The curriculum focuses on 2 main skills: Reading (analysis) and Writing (fiction and non-fiction)
- We aim to bridge the gap between Primary and Secondary by starting with a novel
- Skills that are embedded in Y7 are skills that are then built on throughout the 5 years at Horbury Academy
- We aim to build on cultural capital and promote British Values, aligning key topics with national calendared events. For example, we study war poetry around the time of Remembrance Sunday.
- The curriculum is reviewed yearly to ensure it is designed to get the most out of students

Horbury Academy

The Y7 Curriculum

What we will cover this year

HT1	HT2	HT3	HT4	HT5	HT6
Private Peaceful Developing skills inference and analysis skills 	**War Poetry** Developing skills inference and analysis skills 	**Gothic Writing - Fiction** Developing creative writing skills 	**Animal Rights - Non-fiction** Developing non-fiction writing skills 	**Shakespeare Villains** Developing skills inference and analysis skills 	**A Series of Unfortunate Events** Developing reading for pleasure 

Horbury Academy

Developing Literacy

The Literacy Strategy

- Developing Literacy skills is something that is embedded throughout Horbury Academy.
- **Literacy** is the ability to read, write, speak, listen, and communicate effectively so that pupils can access learning and express their understanding across all subjects.
- Students in all lessons are given the opportunity to:
  - **'Think it'** - Independent thinking time to consider answers
  - **'Say it'** - Opportunity to 'speak like an expert' with guided sentence stems
  - **'Read it'** - Defining key vocab within a text, decoding more challenging words, comprehension skills
  - **'Write it'** - Develop writing skills with supporting sentence stems

Horbury Academy

Reading for pleasure

Why is it important?

The power of reading for pleasure

Boosting children's life chances

Losing yourself in a good book has been shown to **reduce your levels of stress**. Research by Dr David Lewis showed that reading as little as six minutes a day can reduce stress levels by 60% by reducing your heart rate, easing muscle tension and altering your state of mind. That same **study** showed that reading was better at reducing stress than music, drinking a cup of tea, going for a walk and playing video games.

1.1 million more children with five good GCSEs

If all children in the UK read for pleasure almost daily, the number getting five good GCSE grades could increase by 1.1 million over a generation (30 years).

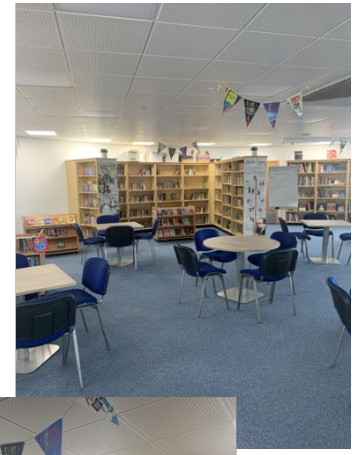
£57,500 higher income

Gaining five good GCSE grades would boost the average lifetime earnings of those individuals by £57,500.

Horbury Academy

Reading for pleasure

Opportunities within the academy



- Reading Rewards card, author visits and celebration events
- Reading Buddies
- Our fantastic Book Vending machines
- Our amazing LRC
  - Open every break and lunchtime
  - Homework club afterschool Monday – Friday (2:55pm-3:45pm)

How can you help?

- Talk to your child about these areas and encourage them to get involved!
- Encourage them to attend the LRC and try a new book.

Horbury Academy

Homework

How it works in English

- Students will be set 3 pieces of homework per half term
  - Homework 1 – 10 key spellings to learn associated with the half termly topic
  - Homework 2 – 10 key definitions of the spellings to learn associated with the half termly topic
  - Homework 3 – A multiple choice quiz to consolidate learning
- Depending on the length of the half term, these will usually be set **Week 1**, **Week 2** and **Week 4/5**
- Students will be tests on the key spellings/definitions in lesson
- All homework will be set on TEAMS and a message will also go out on Bromcom

Horbury Academy

NGRT

New Group Reading Test

- As a way of ensuring students are given the best possible chance to access the curriculum, students will undertake a reading test at the start of Y7.
- This will then be done at the end of every academic year until students go into Y11
- The tests generate a reading age which will allow us to adapt teaching to suit the needs of the students
- Students may move sets as a result but it's important to note that the curriculum diet is the same for all students.

Horbury Academy

NGRT

What does it look like?

When will it take place?

- During Half Term 1 in a normal English lesson
- Students will be given prior warning

Do they need to do any preparation beforehand?

- No, the test is computer based and students will be asked to answer some comprehension style questions based on unseen extracts. The test adapts to the needs of the students as they start answering questions

How long is the test?

- It will take no more than 45 minutes

When will changes to sets take place if needed?

- Students will be told of any changes to their English sets at the start of Half Term 2

Horbury Academy

Any questions?

Horbury Academy

People Belong Place Matters Purpose Lasts