NEECA English Curriculum

| Intent | Pupils who arrive at NEECA are taught an English curriculum that allows them to fill gaps in their knowledge and skills together with honing and extending those skills. After an English baseline assessment teachers are able to see if there are gaps in English skills. Pupils also complete CAT4 and Exact testing during induction. All this information gives our English teachers precise details of where each pupil should be and what level they should be working towards. These details are used to plan lessons for each pupil. Pupils can join us at any time throughout the year and leave at any time throughout the year and we keep in touch with our feeder schools to ensure our pupils are receiving an English curriculum on par with what is happening locally. We follow the English National Curriculum and exam specifications for EL, GCSE and IGCSE. We have opportunities for continuous assessment together with formal assessments each half term  **Years 7 and 8** start the year exploring short reads: a play, a short story and nonfiction. During the spring term they learn about the English language within the context of British history. The pupils learn about how historical events and eras have shaped the English language into its current form, as well as explaining variations within the language. In the summer term we will read a novel called *The Boy at the Top of the Mountain* and explore life during WW2. There are opportunities for discussions and presentations during the year and there are many opportunities for reading and writing. Pupils will consolidate and build on their knowledge of grammar and vocabulary throughout the year.  **Year 9** introduces pupils to the GCSE literature texts. Many of our feeder schools sit the GCSE Literature exam at the end of year 10 - by studying these texts we are enabling our pupils to return with some literature knowledge. We start by exploring the Victorian period and complete an in depth study of Charles Dickens. This gives context knowledge for the 19th century novel studied for GCSE. We then move onto learning about Shakespeare and his plays. This is followed in the summer term by learning about the importance of context whilst studying the anthology poetry. There are opportunities for discussions and presentations during the year and there are many opportunities for reading and writing. Pupils will consolidate and build on their knowledge of grammar and vocabulary throughout the year.  **Year 10** follows an integrated approach to GCSE Literature and Language. We are usually the final destination for pupils who join us in year 10. By giving each pupil the opportunity to study GCSE literature and language we are giving them the chance to achieve 2 GCSEs in English. Our local post 16 provider requires 3 GCSEs (grade 1+) to enrol on their foundation courses, so by gaining 2 English GCSEs together with a maths GCSE (the minimum expectation of all our pupils) we are ensuring they have the same opportunity as their peers. At the end of the year we assess all pupils on all of the texts they have studied.  **Year 11** gives pupils the opportunity to sit CIE English Language IGCSE in October. This helps pupils to understand how a real GCSE exam works together with the opportunity to receive an early GCSE grade. Our local post 16 provider accepts IGCSE as an equivalent qualification. When this exam is completed we continue to study for AQA GCSE English Language and AQA GCSE English Literature exam in the summer. |
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| Implementation | All English teachers at NEECA are subject specialists and we participate in relevant subject and exam CPD events. Our lessons start with a ‘Do Now’ activity and we share the learning intention with the pupils. Learner understanding is checked throughout the lessons and feedback is given in a constructive manner. We follow the ‘I do, we do, you do’ model when new material or concept is introduced. Assessment is used to inform teaching.  Our environment allows our pupils to focus on learning. Our resources and materials are selected to suit the needs of our pupils.  We are ambitious for all our pupils and aim for our pupils to leave NEECA with the knowledge and skills they need for future learning and employment. |
| Impact | At KS3, students return to mainstream school with a greater understanding of the skills needed to succeed in a mainstream English classroom.  At KS4, students leave with the qualifications that accurately reflect their abilities in English to colleges and future employers. |
| Accreditations | CIE English Language IGCSE  AQA English Language GCSE  AQA English Literature GCSE  AQA English Step Up (silver - EL2 and gold - EL3) |
| Enrichment Opportunities | Theatre trips  Theatre groups in school  Writing Competitions  Museum/places of interest |
| Safeguarding | We encourage students to be careful with their language choices in order to establish a safe and respectful environment. All students are given the tools to accurately explain their emotional and mental well-being which in turn allows the school to better cater to their specific needs. |