

## WFA English - Why do we teach this?

Year 9	Curriculum Intent
Term 1	<p><b>Jekyll and Hyde</b></p> <p>This unit introduces students to key ideas about duality, morality, repression, and the nature of evil through <i>The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde</i>. Students explore how Stevenson presents the conflict between good and evil within individuals, shaped by Victorian society, science, and social expectations. Through close study of the novel and selected contextual and literary texts, students develop an understanding of character, setting, symbolism, and narrative structure. The unit encourages critical thinking about identity, responsibility, and the consequences of unchecked ambition, while building skills in reading, analysis, and written and spoken communication. It also provides a strong foundation for later study of literature that explores morality, power, and human nature.</p>
Term 2	<p><b>The Crucible – Modern Play</b></p> <p>As a modern play, this unit explores themes of power, hysteria, justice, and integrity through Arthur Miller’s <i>The Crucible</i>. Students examine how fear, mass paranoia, and authority shape behaviour and lead to injustice, drawing links between the Salem witch trials and wider social and political contexts. Through close study of the play and relevant contextual materials, students analyse character, dialogue, and dramatic structure. The unit encourages critical thinking about truth, morality, and personal responsibility, while developing skills in reading, analysis, and written and spoken communication. It also provides a foundation for later study of texts that explore conflict, oppression, and the abuse of power.</p>
Term 3	<p><b>Non-Fiction Study</b></p> <p>This Year 9 non-fiction scheme of learning explores powerful and relevant themes such as gender, power, corruption, and poverty through a diverse range of texts. Students engage with speeches, articles, essays, and other real-world writing, developing their ability to interpret ideas, analyse viewpoints, and evaluate how writers use language and structure to influence readers. Alongside reading, students build their transactional writing skills, learning to communicate clearly, purposefully, and persuasively for a range of audiences and forms. They practise writing letters, speeches, articles, and other non-fiction texts, focusing on tone, structure, and the effective use of rhetorical and linguistic techniques. The scheme encourages students to think critically about real-world issues while developing confidence in expressing their own viewpoints. Through regular practice, feedback, and reflection, students strengthen both their analytical reading and writing skills, preparing them for the demands of GCSE English Language.</p>