



WINCHESTER
COLLEGE

Winchester College Entrance and Election Syllabus

ENGLISH

AIMS

The aim of study in Years 7 and 8 is to generate appreciative, analytical readers whose written expression is both assured, articulate and imaginative. Learners are encouraged to enjoy reading a rich, challenging range of texts and to nurture their own, individual enthusiasm for writing.

Reading

- to foster a culture of independent wider reading, including poetry.
- to encourage learners to understand how language shapes meaning in a range of genres and read for both explicit and implicit meanings.
- to develop learners' use of evidence to substantiate their readings.

Writing

- to help learners develop clear, accurate (in terms of spelling, grammar and punctuation) written expression, using appropriate paragraphing in extended pieces.
- to nurture creativity and reasoning in learners' prose through the appropriate, measured use of literary and rhetorical devices.

SYLLABUS CONTENT

Close Reading

- to be able to comprehend the grammatical sense and literal meaning of a sentence.
- to understand how language shapes meaning and be able to address denotations and connotations of words.
- to be able to consider the effects of form (including poetry) and structure on meaning.
- to be able to unpick the implied meaning of a text, through use of evidence.
- to respond in an analytical/evaluative manner.

Writing (in general)

- to write using accurate prose (spelling, grammar and punctuation).
- to structure extended writing clearly, using paragraphs which link logically to one another.
- to write using the appropriate register for the task at hand.

Imaginative Writing

- to demonstrate appropriate and effective use of a range of vocabulary.
- to create believable fictional scenarios through the use of setting, voice and character.
- to make creative use of literary devices such as simile and metaphor to generate effects.
- to demonstrate imaginative and varied methods of story-telling.
- to have a command of narrative structure (e.g. climax) and use it for effect.
- to distinguish between the conventions of descriptive and narrative writing.

Persuasive/Argumentative Writing

- to use the appropriate vocabulary and register for a given audience.
- to structure a logical, coherent argument, using supportive evidence (which may be anecdotal)
- to use rhetorical devices deliberately and for effect.