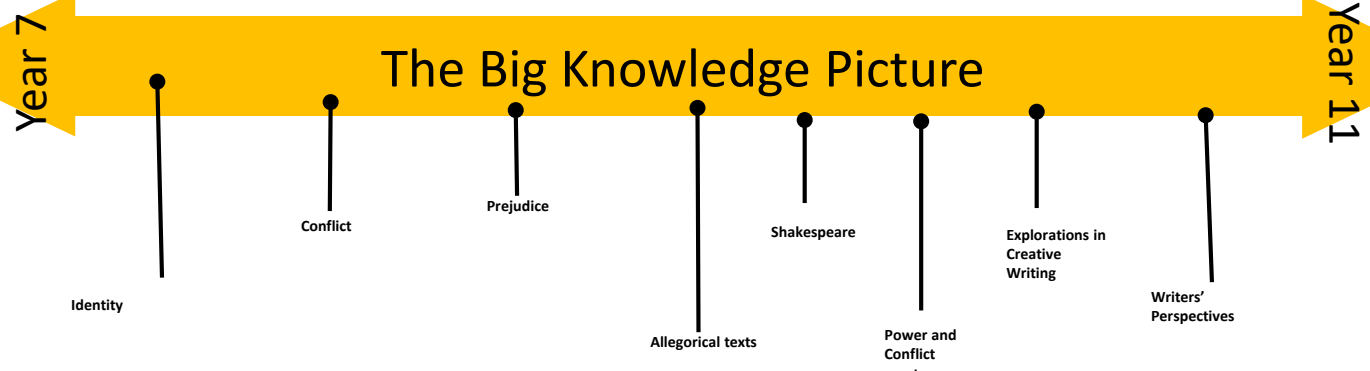


# English Knowledge Map

Our curriculum emphasises understanding the social, moral, and historical thinking behind texts and how they inform modern interpretations.

## The Big Knowledge Picture



## The KS3 Big Questions (Year 7-9) and The KS4 Big Questions (Year 10-11)

**KS3 Big Questions:** Why do people write? How do writers explore their experiences? How are the texts that have been written before relevant to today?

**KS4 Big Questions:** What might a writer be trying to show or teach a reader? How do texts link to The Human Condition? Why do stories and poems matter? How do texts relate to the real world? How do texts link to modern Britain?

### YEAR 11

**Language Skills & Unseen Poetry**

- How do writers craft structure to engage their readers?
- What should a writer have in their toolkit to create a compelling piece of writing?
- How do writers craft language to show their perspective?
- What human experiences are universal?

**Revision and Re-Cap**

**“An Inspector Calls” and Language Paper 1**

- Priestley crafted each of the characters in “An Inspector Calls” to be symbols; the Birling family members all symbolise a different sin.
- Historically, who gets a voice? Why does having a voice matter?
- The three witches is a modern idea in “Macbeth”. Originally they were called “The Weird Sisters” - meaning that they could see into the future.

**“Macbeth”**

- What happens if the “natural order” is broken?
- Is “natural order” a real thing?
- King James VI claimed to be descended from Banquo. That is why Shakespeare presents Banquo as the best leader in the play.

### YEAR 10 KEY STAGE 4

**Prejudice: “Of Mice and Men” & Speaking and Listening**

- Why are some groups marginalised?
- How can we understand the world through character constructs?
- Before writing “Of Mice and Men”, Steinbeck interviewed several ranch workers for a newspaper article he was writing. What they told him inspired him to describe their harsh reality.

**“A Christmas Carol” and English Language Paper 2**

- How can literature be a force for change?
- What human experiences change over time?
- How do writers craft plots and characters to create meaning?
- How can allegory be used to present a moral message?
- How is power created?
- How can allegory be used to present a moral message?

**Prejudice: “The Merchant of Venice” & Conflict Writing**

- Shakespeare’s “The Merchant of Venice” deals with themes of friendship, love, money, true wealth, exclusion and hatred, mercy, justice, and the differences between appearance and reality. Themes that help us understand the world we live in.
- How do perceptions change over time?
- What freedoms and boundaries do we have?
- Why are some groups marginalised?

**Prejudice: “Jane Eyre” & Gothic Writing**

- Jane Eyre outraged many Victorian readers for its realistic portrayal of life during that time. Bronte challenged the role of women, religion, and mortality in the Victorian society.
- What human experiences change over time?

### YEAR 9

**Identity: “The Bone Sparrow” & Creative Writing Fantasy Worlds**

- How do writers craft language for audience?
- How do writers craft characters?
- This novel looks at the human condition and what it means to live as a refugee.

**Conflict: “Jekyll and Hyde” & Mystery Writing**

- Stevenson explores the concept of what it means to be human and focuses on the duality of man, exploring man’s sense of morality and immorality.
- How is science presented?
- What desires humans have and how do they achieve these desires?
- How is religion presented?

**Conflict: “Romeo and Juliet” & Relationships and Voices**

- Shakespeare explores the themes of family, identity, loyalty and masculinity in “Romeo and Juliet”.
- How can you craft language and structure to build tension?
- How do writers choose key events to build tension?
- How are characters and themes presented?

**Conflict: “Animal Farm” and Rhetoric Writing**

- “Animal Farm” is allegorical novel warning about the dangers of Stalinism.
- How does time make us see the word differently?
- How does society work?
- What makes a good leader?
- What happens when the rules of society are broken?

### YEAR 8

**Identity: “The Tempest” & Non-Fiction Colonialist Power Writing**

- How do writers craft language for purpose?
- How do writers craft characters?
- Shakespeare explores the themes of family, colonialism, identity, nature, suffering and power in “The Tempest”.
- How can you craft language to build tension?
- How do writers choose key events to build tension?
- How are characters presented?

**Identity: “Oliver Twist” & Protest Writing**

- How do writers craft language for audience?
- How do writers craft characters?
- Dickens is one of the most prolific Victorian writers and comments on poverty, injustice and oppression.
- Why might learning about other’s experiences help shape us as people?
- How might we ensure society is fair and equal for everyone?
- What do we learn about other’s identities and how does this help us understand the world?