



MINTLAW
ACADEMY

S1
ENGLISH
Course

Broad
General
Education

Course Outline for
Pupils and Carers

novels, poetry, drama, films,
advertising, media, stories

Mintlaw Academy's English, Media and Literacy Faculty

S1 Course Outline Booklet.

You will be exposed to a broad range of texts over the three years of the Broad General Education in English and you will continue to develop your skills in the four core literacy skills of English – Reading, Writing, Listening and Talking. As a faculty we strive to provide a course that is sculpted around the skills you need to develop to be a successful learner. This allows your teachers to structure their planning to meet the needs and interests of their class more effectively.

You will have three periods of English and one of Oracy per week. You will also have an opportunity fortnightly to access the school Library and select texts for Personal Reading.

What will I cover in S1?

Reading: you will read and respond to a variety of texts – prose and non-fiction, poetry, drama and media.

Writing: you will create critical, creative, persuasive, informative and functional texts

Talking: you will deliver individual Presentations (these can be pre-recorded in some cases) and participate in Group Discussions in class.

Listening: you will develop your Listening skills in a variety of formal and informal contexts.

The course timeline provided will give you more details. If you are having problems with class work, home study or revision, remember to ask your English teacher for help.

How will I be assessed?

Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening Skills will be developed and continually assessed throughout S1. For each piece of assessed work, you will be given specific **feedback** which will detail the strengths of each piece as well as its areas for development – i.e. what steps you need to take to improve. These steps will give you clear instructions on how to improve your work next time – so that you can achieve a better grade. Your teacher will also use **Whole Class Feedback** to deliver feedback, quick fixes and how to improve for next time. They might model the perfect answers, teach you strategies for improvement or do a whole class example.

What skills will I develop?

- Core Literacy and Oracy skills in **Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening**.
- **Critical Thinking skills** such as analysis, evaluation, prediction, spotting and challenging bias, judging credibility, and making inferences.
- **Creative skills** including using language and structure for specific effects.
- **Research skills** such as searching, selecting, organising, evaluating reliability and validity of evidence and presenting information.
- **Independent Study Skills** including note-making revision tips, time management, reading strategies, planning and Mind Maps.
- **Core Health and Wellbeing** skills such as confidence, resilience, self-esteem, working with others and perseverance.
- **Digital Literacy skills** through the use of Glow, Teams, Forms and other online services.

What Homework tasks can I expect?

In S1 the most important homework that you can do is personal reading. Reading helps you to develop so many skills in English. For example, it will develop your vocabulary and understanding of writers' craft which helps to improve your own writing skills. Not only that, but there is a lot of evidence that reading helps to improve your concentration and helps people to de-stress and relax. Remember, you should be aiming to read every single night to really feel the benefit of personal reading.

Homework may also include redrafting a critical essay; preparation for an individual presentation or information gathering for a classwork task. Most homework tasks will have an Assignment on Teams to allow you to hand it in electronically.

The English Faculty uses:

- Teams to set and assign homework tasks.
- Microsoft Forms to do tests and quizzes
- Glow to share our resources with you!

	August - October (8 weeks)	October - December (8 weeks)	January - March (12 weeks)	April - May (7 weeks)
Theme	Text: Getting to Know You.	Text: Drama - <i>Ernie's Incredible Illucinations</i> by Alan Ayckbourn	Text: Short Story - <i>Licked</i> by Paul Jennings	Text: Poetry Poetry Unit
Key Skills	<p>Personal Writing: Getting to know you Write letters to teacher Presentation/talk (first 3 weeks)</p> <p>Spooky Stuff Unit (5 weeks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drawing - Descriptive writing - Characterisation - Spooky Story 	<p>Ernie's : A variety of tasks related to it.</p> <p>Creative Writing: Write a drama script</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stage directions. - Characterisation. - Set and Costume - Dialogue <p>Doric Week - Exploration of Scots/Doric</p> <p>RUAE :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding - Analysis - Evaluation 	<p>Critical Essay</p> <p>Critical Writing Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introductions - Paragraphing - Conclusions - Analysing - Evaluating - Formal writing style <p>RUAE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding - Analysis - Evaluation 	<p>Creative Writing: Poetry</p> <p>Creative Writing Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning - Poetry forms - Imagery - Poetic terms and language - Style <p>RUAE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding - Analysis - Evaluation
Assessments and Assessed Pieces.	Personal Writing/Talk Spooky Stuff Unit - story	Listening Assessment: <i>Christmas Truce</i> on Forms Creative Writing - drama script	RUAE Assessment: <i>Washed Out to Sea</i> - on Forms Critical Essay	RUAE Assessment: <i>The Olympics</i> - on Forms Creative Writing - Poetry

Oracy Period runs once a week for the whole year. It covers Talking and Listening skills, presentation and research skills as well as rhetorical techniques.

Classes will also have a dedicated period once a week which covers the essential skills of Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation, or 'Close Reading'.

