



# Blue Coat Church of England Academy

**Year: 8**

**Subject: English**

## **Unit 1 – Gothic Horror**

During this unit, pupils will explore a range of Gothic Horror Literature, developing their understanding of the way in which writers craft their work to appeal to the reader. They will read a range of modern and traditional gothic horror stories, including extracts from literary classics such as Mary Shelley's Frankenstein and Bram Stoker's Dracula. They will develop their skills when writing about language and structure with a focus on inference. Pupils will explore literary contexts and consider how the meaning of texts can change depending on when they were written.

Assessment Date: Week commencing 11th November

## **Unit 2 – Narrative Writing**

During this unit, pupils will practise their creative writing skills, by writing under the guise of a character, within a Gothic text, who may find themselves in an ominous situation. Pupils will practise how to sequence their inner thoughts and feelings, using paragraphs effectively. They will complete activities that develop their ability to organise their ideas cohesively. Pupils will also practise using a variety of sentences types, in order to engage and interest their reader, which will encourage them to

layer their narrative effectively. Throughout the unit, their spelling, vocabulary and punctuation will be focused on during lessons.

Assessment Date: Week commencing 27th January

### **Unit 3 – Shakespeare**

During this unit, pupils will read and study key scenes from a Shakespearean play. Pupils will consider the play's themes, characters and plot. They will analyse the traits and behaviour of the different characters and discuss why they might behave in the way they do. Pupils will investigate and learn about the historical context in which the play was written and explore the ways in which this may have impacted the play and its audience. Finally, pupils will evaluate a critical response based on a statement about a theme or character and consider the extent to which they agree.

Assessment Date: Week commencing 20th April

### **Unit 4 – I Have a Dream**

During this unit, pupils will develop their ability to write, and speak, for a variety of audiences and purposes. Pupils will explore the features of different forms of writing, including writing to argue and persuade, with a focus on writing to persuade. They will explore the features of persuasive speaking, analysing the effect of gesture, intonation and rhetoric, in order to deliver their own persuasive speech to an audience. They will also practise taking different roles in class or group discussion, using formal language and an appropriate mode of delivery. Pupils will evaluate the effectiveness of their own and others' speaking and listening, in order to reach an understanding of what makes an effective public speaker.

Assessment Date: Week commencing 1st July