

English at Smithills instils a life-long passion for learning, in which all pupils aspire to be better than they ever thought they could be. It is our collective responsibility to offer an engaging and academically enriching experience focused on the progress of all pupils.

A Celebration of English at Smithills: Extra-curricular enrichment programme

Weekly clubs and activities:

- Scrabble Club – every Thursday lunchtime in the library. Run by Miss Whitehead
- Mock Trials – Pupils work together to prepare an argument for both the prosecution and the defence of a fictional legal case. This takes place on Thursday lunchtimes in W2 with Miss Osten. Times and dates 2016/2017 TBC
- KS3 & KS4 Book Club. Shadowing the Bolton Children’s Fiction Award. Run in conjunction with Mrs Fahlin. Times and dates for 2016/2017 TBC

Raising aspirations:

- Year 9 Careers Event – Organised and arranged by Miss Morgan. Pupils attend workshops delivered by barristers, engineers, psychologists and police officers. Times and dates for 2016/2017 TBC
- Aspirations visits to Oxford and Cambridge University – every spring or summer term arranged through contacts of Ms Beresford. During the residential all pupils will have opportunities to explore the historic environment of Oxbridge, speak to current undergraduates and gain valuable information about admissions to Russell Group Universities from college Admission Tutors

Our Love for Literacy:

- Accelerated Reader programme for all Year 7-9 pupils. Delivered during English lessons and form time and coordinated by Miss Morgan
- Bolton School Reading Mentors. Following the National Strategies ‘Reading Challenge’ programme. One to one reading mentoring/coaching
- Reading forms. Intervention reading forms for those pupils identified using the Accelerated Reading programme. Follows the format of a book chat. Run various staff
- Top Readers. Regular prizes given for attendance at reading forms and achievements in Accelerated Reader. Coordinated by Mrs Fahlin
- Summer reading challenge. Reading passports to ensure that pupils maintain their reading progress. Prizes awarded in autumn term 2016
- Regular timetabled library lessons to promote a love of reading. Coordinated by Miss Morgan

Extra-curricular opportunities:

- Regular theatre trips including The Tempest, Woman in Black, War Horse, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time, To Kill a Mockingbird and The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas
- Visits from poets and authors including Ursula Holden Gill, Ian McMillan and Tony Husband
- Live web conferences with famous novelists. Participating in the Puffin Virtually Live events during library lessons. Sessions have included Jacqueline Wilson and Jeff Kinney. Run by Ms Fahlin
- Celebration of key events in the reading calendar including World Book Day