

Year 9 English



St Andrew's College

2017

Ko te reo te tuakiri
Ko te reo toku ahurei
Ko te reo te ora

*Language is my identity
Language is my uniqueness
Language is life*

Kia ora and welcome to Year 9 English for 2017

English is the study, use, and enjoyment of the English language and its literature, communicated orally, visually, and in writing, for a range of purposes and audiences and in a variety of text forms. Learning English encompasses learning the language, learning through the language, and learning about the language.

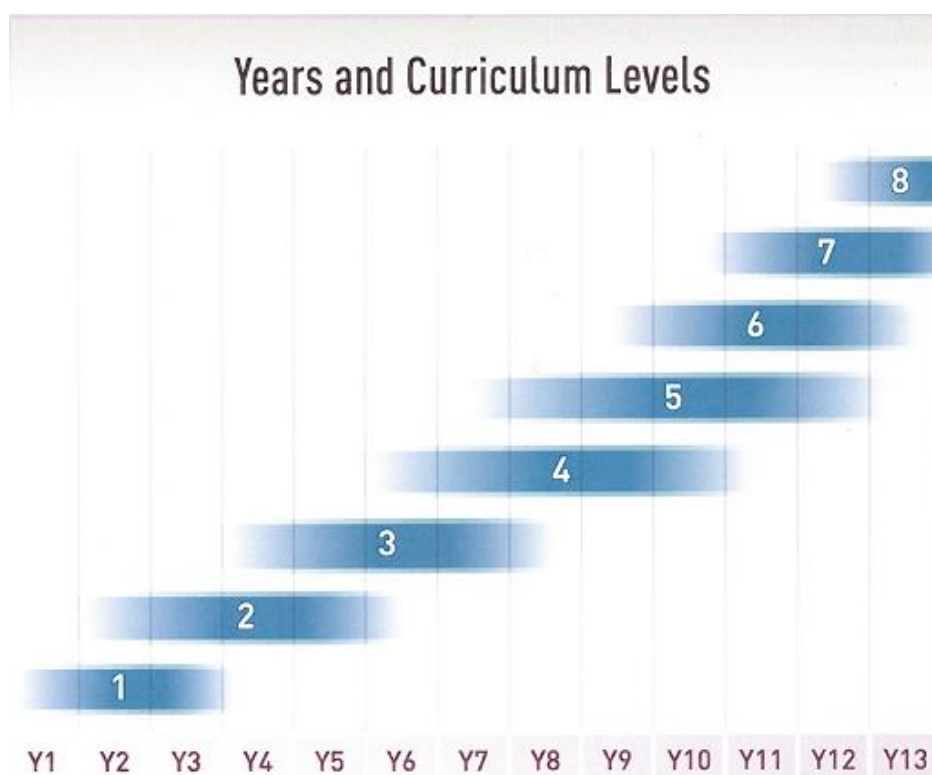
Understanding, using, and creating oral, written, and visual texts of increasing complexity is at the heart of English teaching and learning. By engaging with text-based activities, you will become an increasingly skilled and sophisticated speaker and listener, writer and reader, presenter and viewer.

English is structured around two interconnected strands, each encompassing the oral, written, and visual forms of the language. The strands differentiate between the modes in which you are primarily:

- *Making meaning* of ideas or information you receive (listening, reading, and viewing)
- *Creating meaning* for yourself or others (speaking, writing, and presenting)

All English programmes focus on developing your ability to make meaning from texts studied and create meaning, in writing, orally and visually. Our aim is to challenge you to think about language, texts and the world in new ways, as well as become a better learner and thinker.

The diagram below shows how curriculum levels typically relate to years at school. In Year 9, all of our criteria assesses against Levels 4 and 5 of the New Zealand Curriculum. You should be aiming to produce work at Level 4 of the curriculum, moving to 5 beginning by the end of the year.



Key Learning Outcomes

You will show an increasing understanding of:

- How texts are shaped and how to shape texts for different audiences and purposes.
- Ideas within, across and beyond texts and the ability to communicate these ideas on a range of topics.
- A range of language features, how they are used for effect and how to use these for effect.
- A range of structures and how to organise and structure texts effectively.
- How texts are manipulated to influence an audience.

The specific skills you will focus on developing in English are:

- Developing structured, coherent and increasingly complex written, oral and visual texts.
- Using increasingly sophisticated language for a particular purpose or audience.
- Analysing increasingly complex ideas and language within a text and make connections across and beyond texts.
- Building on prior knowledge and integrating ideas from a range of sources.
- Seeking feedback, revising drafts and reworking texts to improve clarity and meaning.
- Self-evaluating and articulating the learning processes and progress.

Learning Values at St Andrew's College

The New Zealand Curriculum identifies five key competencies that people use to live, learn, work, and contribute as an active member of their communities. St Andrew's College has developed these as four *Learning Values*. Successful learners make use of and develop these. Each report will be an opportunity to give you feedback on how well you are doing with them. You will also have opportunities to reflect on your own progress with these values.

Think: *How much do you think about what you learn and how you learn it?*

- You have a natural curiosity in the subject and are interested in your learning.
- You can make new information by linking ideas.
- You ask questions to gain more knowledge and help create new information.
- You demonstrate effective critical thinking, questioning the reliability of all information.
- You use a range of thinking strategies without teacher direction and can work out which works best for you as a learner.
- You reflect on how well you have learned, use your reflections to do better in future attempts, and act successfully on these reflections.

Collaborate: *How well do you learn with and from other people?*

- You participate and contribute to all group activities in lessons and are a positive influence in groups and in the classroom.
- You understand and can explain how your actions contribute to a learning outcome.
- You interact positively with a diverse range of people in a variety of contexts and you actively listen, recognise different viewpoints, negotiate and share ideas.
- You are open to new ideas, approaches, and ways of thinking.

Organise: *How organised are you with your own and others' equipment and learning?*

- You manage time and equipment effectively, in and out of class and can cope under the pressure of assessment.
- You meet deadlines and are able to communicate any issues with your teacher.
- You always have the right equipment for lessons.
- You understand and can explain how being organised contributes to your learning outcomes.

Strive to Achieve: *How determined are you to learn and achieve results that reflect your best efforts?*

- You focus on learning activities consistently and are rarely distracted.
- You behave consistently and appropriately in class settings, regardless of what is going on around you.
- You work hard to set and achieve results that reflect your best efforts.
- You are not put off by setbacks and failures. You know these are a normal part of the learning process.
- You demonstrate a desire to improve and develop as a learner.

Key areas of Learning:

<i>Making meaning</i> of ideas or information you receive (listening, reading, and viewing).	<i>Creating meaning</i> for yourself or others (speaking, writing, and presenting)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Close reading: You will learn to understand what you read, listen to, and view. These skills will be incorporated into each module of work. ▪ Viewing: You will learn to identify visual language features and understand their purpose. ▪ Personal reading: You will be encouraged to set yourself a reading goal and read from a range of genres across the year. ▪ Language and Grammar: You will develop your skills with knowing and using language, with particular emphasis on effective editing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Writing: You will develop your ability to write in a range of genres. ▪ Speaking: You will develop your oral and presenting skills across a variety of activities. ▪ Presenting: You will develop your ability to use visual techniques for a particular purpose and audience.



Over the year, you will read and view a selection of texts. These texts will be linked thematically and your class teacher will introduce a specific theme at the beginning of each term.

Writer in Residence:

We are very privileged to have a published writer working at St Andrew's College. New Zealand poet, Kerrin Davidson, works with you, in and out of the classroom, helping to foster your talent as a writer.

Particular skills required for a Year 9 student:

- ***Write an essay using TEXAS paragraphs.*** You will begin by learning and understanding how to write a TEXAS paragraph. This will enable you to present your ideas in a logical format supported by well-chosen examples. You will also pay close attention to your editing skills. Your writing will be assessed across the following areas:
 - ***Ideas (how well you express and develop your ideas)***
 - ***Structure (how well you structure your text)***
 - ***Purpose and Audience (your understanding of purpose and audience)***
 - ***Mechanics (the techniques you use)***
- ***Making Meaning through close reading texts:*** Looking closely at ***what*** a text is about, ***how*** the author created that meaning and ***why*** the author created the text. Activities will enable your teacher to target the specific techniques and language required to answer these questions across written, visual and oral text
- ***Personal Reading:*** Your teacher will incorporate personal reading into your English programme. You will be encouraged to read regularly at the start of each period and Library periods will also be an important aspect of this programme.
- ***Language and grammar:*** This will be targeted in combination with all units of work. Your teacher will provide you with a range of activities to help you with your language skills.
- ***BYO Device:*** Expectations are that there will be genuine and appropriate use of devices in the classroom. Your teacher will develop a programme where you will be using your device, in combination with handwritten notes.