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## **Beckfoot Upper Heaton English Curriculum Intent**

“Our aim is to empower learners with the knowledge, skills and personal qualities they need to be future-ready young people. By offering as wide a range of literature and writers as possible, we want our learners to understand the power of language to change the world they live in.”

### **English Intent**

We want our learners to understand and validate their place in the modern world through the study of literature and non-fiction to address gaps and expand their cultural capital. We aim to expose our learners to as wide a range of literary voices as possible, particularly from under-represented and marginalised groups. Literature can offer a window into the lives of others; we want learners to explore these lives to enrich their own. We choose novels, plays, poetry, non-fiction and 19<sup>th</sup> century texts that are at a standard of excellence making them worthy of study, whilst being appropriate to learners’ reading and interest levels. By studying world class novels we allow our learners to engage with contemporary issues such as prejudice, conflict and political unrest, whilst also developing their personal qualities of empathy, confidence, integrity and kindness. Through a consistent approach to reading, we allow students to explore the power of language and structure in a formal, academic manner. Mastery of writing is essential to success in future life; we insist our students write at length and with use of Tier 2/3 vocabulary, both in lessons and at home, to give them the mature, articulate voice needed to be confident communicators. Opportunities for learners to write creatively and express themselves orally are offered throughout the curriculum. By the end of Key Stage 3, learners should be academically and personally ready for GCSE at Key Stage 4.

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<b>Confident Communicators</b>	<b>Knowledgeable and Expert Learners</b>
<p><i>To create confident communicators, the English curriculum:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secures then creatively develops the fundamental skills in writing and oracy</li> <li>• Embeds routines for talk in lessons</li> <li>• Provides a safe space to express learners' own views</li> </ul> <p><i>The English curriculum provides opportunities for all learners to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss, present and role play</li> <li>• Give their own interpretations of texts studied</li> </ul>	<p><i>To create knowledgeable and expert learners, the English curriculum:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is knowledge rich</li> <li>• Masters fundamental writing skills</li> <li>• Teaches social, cultural and historical context</li> <li>• Exposes learners to a wide range of forms, genres and voices</li> </ul> <p><i>The English curriculum provides opportunities for all learners to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply their knowledge in narrative, descriptive and transactional writing using a range of forms, genres and styles</li> <li>• Explore cultures and lives both similar and different to their own</li> <li>• Read fiction and non-fiction texts from contemporary and heritage time periods</li> </ul>
<b>Committed Community Contributors</b>	<b>Future-Ready Young People</b>
<p><i>To create committed community contributors, the English curriculum:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equips learners with the linguistic skills needed to effect change</li> <li>• Provides effective structure to their transactional writing and oracy</li> <li>• Develops empathy, tolerance and acceptance for others</li> </ul> <p><i>The English curriculum provides opportunities for all learners to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embrace and celebrate local literary heritage</li> <li>• Write about their own community</li> <li>• Visit local areas of literary heritage</li> </ul>	<p><i>To create future-ready young people, the English curriculum:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raises learners' cultural capital</li> <li>• Exposes learners to a wide range of voices from within and outside their own culture</li> <li>• Secures fundamental reading, writing and oracy skills needed for life beyond Beckfoot Upper Heaton</li> </ul> <p><i>The English curriculum provides opportunities for all learners to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gain skills of retrieval, comprehension and analysis by reading a range of fiction and non-fiction texts and writing about them</li> <li>• Write formally and in standard English for purposes of transactional writing, applicable in life outside of school</li> </ul>