

Middlewich High School



Literacy Policy

Approved by Governing Body 25th June 2018

Review Date: 25th June 2021

Achievement For All

Literacy is an essential life skill that allows students to access positive social, educational and economic outcomes. It enables students to confidently approach the subjects studied in school, to read for information and pleasure and to communicate effectively. Fundamentally, at Middlewich High School, we believe that literate students will ultimately emerge as confident and articulate communicators, fully prepared to participate in the opportunities that they are offered when they continue their academic or vocational studies after high school.

Aims:

In adopting a new whole school Literacy Policy the leadership and staff of Middlewich High School are committed to embedding literacy skills within all subjects and the very fabric of the school, in the belief that it will raise the achievement of all.

- To recognise that **all teachers** are teachers of **literacy**. Teachers must demonstrate an understanding of and take responsibility for promoting high standards of literacy, articulacy and the correct use of Standard English, whatever their specialist subject.
- To provide all staff with strategies to encourage literacy development in the context of their curriculum area.
- To foster a school ethos and climate for learning that gives high status to literacy-related activities, particularly reading and writing for pleasure.
- To raise individual literacy attainment for every student, from providing intervention for students who are struggling to access the curriculum to challenging higher attainment students.
- To ensure that all students have the opportunity to become effective readers, writers and communicators.
- To ensure clear procedures for monitoring literacy across the curriculum, and involve all staff in the assessment of literacy.

Implementation:

- Curriculum Leaders will take responsibility for delivering subject terminology.
- Departments will collaborate to produce a literacy/numeracy mat that supports the needs of students in their subject area and this will be available on desks in lessons.
- The English Department, with support at times from other departments, will promote literacy related competitions and cross-curricular writing opportunities.
- Students will be screened using access tests in Year 7 and Year 10 to ascertain needs in literacy that need further intervention to aid progress or special consideration during examinations.
- Inclusion Specialists will deliver a phonics programme to develop the reading skills of nurture groups in Year 7 and Year 8, enabling them to access the curriculum.
- Additional time in Year 11 will be given to students who would gain from further support with their literacy.
- The Library and librarian, supported by the English Department, will be key to offering opportunities to develop *all* students' reading for pleasure.
- Subject teachers will mark students' literacy in their subject books, using an agreed code – (see the Marking Policy) and students will be given time in lessons to correct and review their work, to ensure an independent understanding of 'accuracy' is secured.