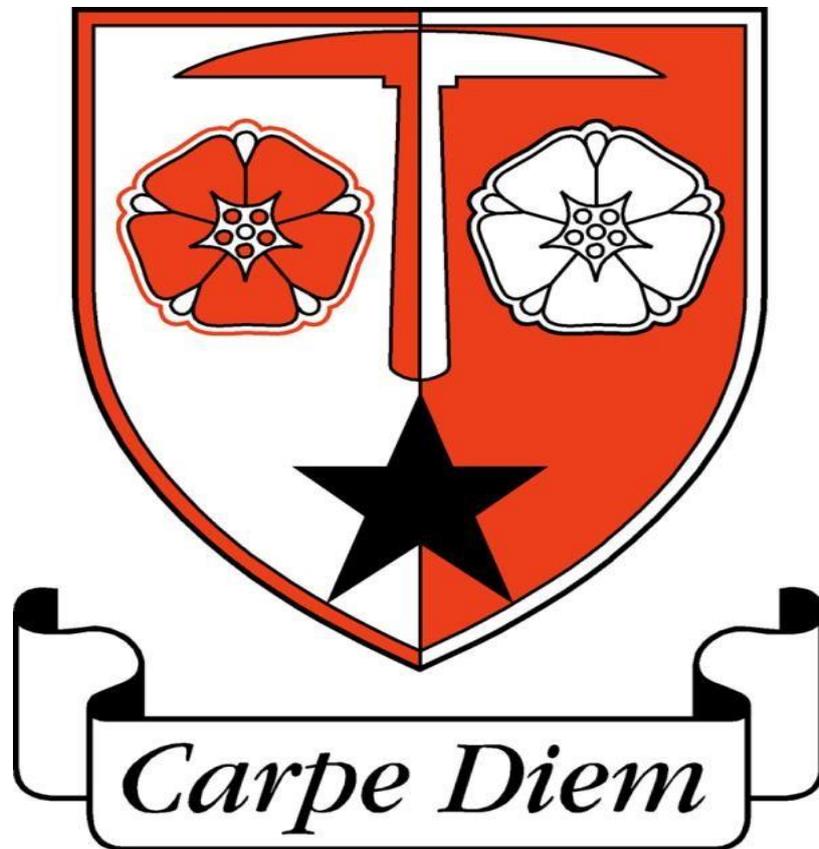


Audenshaw School



LITERACY POLICY

This policy is reviewed annually by the Standards Committee.

History of Document

Issue No	Author/Owner	Date Written	Approved by Standards	Received by Governors	Comments
Issue 1	Liz Warner	June 2012	5 July 2012	5 July 2012	
Issue 1.1	Liz Warner	01/10/2013	02/10/2013	02/10/2013	No amendments
Issue 1.2	Liz Warner	26/09/2014	02/10/2014	02/10/2014	No amendments
Issue 1.3	Brad Cunningham	17/09/2015	24/09/2015	24/09/2015	Minor amendments
Issue 1.4	Liz Warner	15/07/2016	28/07/2016	28/07/2016	Minor amendments
Issue 1.5	Brad Cunningham	27/06/2017	19/07/2017	19/07/2017	Minor amendments
Issue 1.6	Liz Warner	30/10/2017	30/10/2017	20/10/2017	Minor amendments
Issue 1.7	Liz Warner	29/06/2018	10/07/2018	10/07/2018	Minor amendments
Issue 1.8	Brad Cunningham	11/07/2019	08/08/2019	08/08/2019	Minor amendments

OUR MISSION

The school aims to provide a quality education in a caring community based on an ethos of respect and discipline and a relentless pursuit of excellence in all that we do.

OUR VISION

Audenshaw School will be recognised as a fully inclusive, aspirational, high achieving centre of excellence, firmly rooted in the local community.

We will create, develop and maintain a challenging and stimulating personalised learning environment where no student is overlooked or left behind and where teaching and learning is high quality, inspirational and innovative.

We will consistently have high academic standards and expectations for every individual and continue to place considerable value on sport and healthy living and developing strong links with the community.

All members of the school community will be valued and every success will be celebrated.

Audenshaw School will maintain a safe, secure and caring environment in which to work and learn.

AUDENSHAW SCHOOL SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

CONTENTS

		Page Numbers
1.	Introduction	4
2.	Reading	4
3.	Writing	5
4.	Spelling	5
5.	Spoken Language	5
6.	Literacy and SEN support	6
7.	Literacy and Form Time activities	6

1. Introduction

For the purpose of this Policy, the “School” is defined as employees, governors, students and third parties such as contractors, agency workers and consultants acting on behalf of the organisation.

At Audenshaw School, we endorse the fundamental principle that improving our students’ literacy skills is the key to improving learning and raising standards of achievement and attainment. The explicit teaching and learning of effective reading, writing and speaking and listening skills will enable students to gain access to all the subjects studied in school. Literate students will ultimately emerge as confident and articulate communicators, fully prepared to enter the adult world, whether they continue their academic studies or enter the world of work.

The teaching of literacy is not simply the responsibility of the English Department alone; at Audenshaw School, all teachers should aim to share responsibility for the teaching of literacy across the curriculum.

2. Reading

- Departments should have ‘good quality’ reading material in their departments for students to access. Students should know where to find them. Display boards and notice boards should be used to promote relevant and current reading materials.
- Appropriate reading lists of relevant material could be circulated to students at the start of an academic year. Students tend to find reading autobiographies/ biographies appealing or they could be given titles of works written by interesting figures. Students could be rewarded with Behaviour Points, or postcards home to applaud reading around the subject.
- Through the School Council representatives, it has been requested by students that more reading time during lessons would be appreciated, and not just during English lessons. This has to be embraced where possible.
- Students clearly have the opportunity to practise different reading strategies, i.e. skimming or scanning. These needs to be made as explicit to students as possible and incorporated in schemes of learning/ programmes of study where relevant.
- Students have access to a class set of dictionaries in every classroom, and they should be actively encouraged to use a dictionary or thesaurus in their lessons.
- Students must be aware of field specific terminology; these lists should be visible in their books, and/ or clearly posted around classrooms for students to reference.
- Over the course of the year, the English Department will run a number of competitions and quizzes to encourage students to read more widely.

- Students in years 7 and 8 will have access to an online learning library in the form of MyOn, where reading ages will be used to access age appropriate reading material.
- All students will complete a reading test in the first half term in English lessons. They will then get a standardised reading score, which will be shared with all staff to help with the differentiated setting of work.

3. Writing

- Where possible, students should be given opportunities to write in a 'sustained' way. Writing should be modelled for different purposes and audiences and students should be explicitly taught how to write to persuade/ analyse/ review etc and to use the conventions necessary to do so.
- All subject teachers should be adhering to the whole school marking policy; incorrect spellings, punctuation and grammar use will be corrected using the appropriate marking symbols. Students are encouraged to incorporate these into their 'Next Steps'.
- Students should be encouraged to act on their 'Next Steps'. Time should be taken during lessons for a written or oral dialogue to take place about how students can improve their work.

4. Spelling

- Time should be factored into lessons - where it is appropriate - to learn and then test key spellings, including homophones and incorrect high frequency words. The most successful strategy for this is: Look - Cover - Write.
- Where appropriate, students should have subject specific spelling lists in their books or displayed in their classrooms. These spellings should be tested by the teacher as and when is appropriate.
- Students should be explicitly taught how to proofread their work and encouraged to do so before they submit it for marking.
- Key spellings, including homophones and incorrect high frequency words should be identified by the teacher as being incorrect. If the spelling mistake is due to the work not being carefully proofread by the students, then students are required to self-correct their errors. However, if the spelling mistake is being made because the student does not know how to spell the word, then the correct spelling should be modelled for them by the teacher, or they should be directed to a dictionary. This is particularly effective when done by the teacher at the point of learning.
- Spelling activities should be set where appropriate.

5. Spoken Language

Students' language and especially their speech, is part of their identity and should be treated with care and respect and not belittled in any way. Students should feel that

what they have to say is valued in a classroom and that the classroom is a place where ideas can be expressed and respected:

- Students should be afforded plenty of opportunities to talk in lessons for different purposes and with a wide variety of audiences. Oracy needs to play a huge part in all learning journeys across school and students need to be encouraged to articulate their feelings and thoughts in an extended manner: one word responses are not to be accepted by staff.
- Departments should plan for opportunities for students to use talk to explore and develop their ideas, and to express their feelings and opinions.
- Students should be encouraged to report back to a wider audience their findings and ideas. A student playing the 'expert' role is an ideal opportunity not only to take ownership of their own learning, but also to enhance their ability to 'talk' meaningfully.
- It is expected that students should listen to, and absorb the ideas of their peers in order to solve problems collaboratively. This should encourage students to be open-minded and to show respect to others.
- All students will work on speaking skills during English lesson to prepare them for their Spoken Language accreditation in English Language GCSE.

6. Literacy and SEN support

All students are assessed on their reading age when entering school in year 7 using the NRG. Those students with a standard score of 85 or below have intervention to help them improve their reading.

Interventions include 'Reading between the Lines', a reading and comprehension scheme. The Sound Training innovative uses phonics, boosts vocabulary development and literacy skills to improve reading ages. In addition, Accelerated Reader will be used with literacy catch up sets in year 7.

Students are reassessed at the end of each academic year using NRG to see if they have made sufficient progress in their reading age.

If sufficient progress isn't made, identified area of weakness are addressed using one to one teacher and TA intervention strategies which will be tailored to the individual needs.

7. Literacy and form time activities

Activities will take place during form time to encourage literacy, numeracy and oracy across the curriculum. In addition, there will be a focus on developing students' cultural capital and knowledge of the modern issues in society. Relevant staff will conduct learning walks and student voice to ensure that this is taking place and to gather information as to the consistency and effectiveness of form time activities.