Year 7 English

Overview

English is a compulsory subject in year 7. Students have five seventy minute lessons of English and Literacy each week.

Year 7 English builds on the knowledge and skills developed in previous years, and leads on to the compulsory study of English in Years 8, 9 and 10.

Dalby State High School’s English program is structured according to the Australian Curriculum’s essential strands of Language, Literacy and Literature.

Topics studied

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assessment Focus</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Focussed Literacy</td>
<td>Four English lessons each week will include unit work and the explicit teaching of a focussed literacy skill, such as grammar, punctuation, spelling, reading comprehension, applied writing. One 70 minute lesson each week is timetabled specifically as a Literacy lesson. During this lesson, students across the Year 7 cohort will be grouped according to ability for explicit instruction in reading comprehension and writing.</td>
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**Semester One**

A chapter from my life.

- Autobiographical writing

Students explore autobiographical memoirs. They learn how to use narrative structures and emotive language to strengthen audience engagement. Each student writes a short autobiographical memo (formative assessment).

A chapter from someone else’s life.

- Biographies
- Film analysis
- Paragraph responses

Students consider how true stories about real people can be adapted for publication as short stories, books and films. Students complete an in-depth study of a biographical feature film which is based on a true story. For assessment, each student completes a written test of their understanding of the film’s plot, characters, context, themes and messages.

NAPLAN preparation

- Reading comprehension
- Spelling
- Grammar
- Punctuation
- Extended writing

Students are prepared for NAPLAN standardised testing (12, 13, 14 May) with intensive study of reading comprehension strategies, spelling, grammar, punctuation, genres of writing and test procedures. [NAPLAN results are not included in school report card ratings. Results are forwarded directly to students’ families by the Australian government’s NAPLAN testing authority].

Sell it to me!

- Persuasion in advertising
- Presentation skills

Students examine the techniques used by advertisers to influence people’s thoughts, perceptions, aspirations, desires and behaviours. For assessment, each student prepares and delivers a multimodal presentation in which they analyse the persuasive techniques used in an advertisement.

**Semester Two**

Inspire me!

- Public speaking

Students examine the techniques used by public speakers to inspire, energise, convince and encourage their listeners. For assessment, each student prepares and presents a short inspirational speech.

Australian Curriculum

**Language:** Students learn about how language is structured, how to use language in different contexts, how language changes through time and how to use language to develop and express ideas.

**Literacy:** Students develop their skills in the areas of writing, editing, comprehension (reading, listening and visual), public speaking and the use of visuals in spoken presentations.

**Literature:** Students learn how to examine literature, respond to literature and create literature.
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<tr>
<th>Literature about Australians</th>
<th>‘Black Snake – The Legend of Ned Kelly’ Persuasive writing</th>
<th>Students examine the legend of Ned Kelly as it presented in the text. For assessment, each student writes a persuasive essay in which they argue whether Ned Kelly was a hero, a villain or a victim.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Words to change the world</td>
<td>The language of poetry and song lyrics. Reading comprehension</td>
<td>Students explore a wide range of poetry and song lyrics that aim to raise awareness of social issues relevant to adolescents. Techniques used by the writers are examined. For assessment, each student completes a test of their literal, inferential, evaluative and applied comprehension of a focus text.</td>
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<td>My words, my images, my message.</td>
<td>Poetry writing Visual language Presentation skills</td>
<td>Students apply their knowledge of poetic techniques to write their own poetry. For assessment, students choose one of their poems and create a presentation in which they read their poem aloud while displaying a slide show of images which reinforce the mood and message of their poem. A Poetry Slam event is planned for each class. Friends and families will be invited to enjoy students’ presentations.</td>
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