

ENGLISH

Learning Ladder

Key

Learning Ladders

The Learning Ladders are split into Year 7, 8 and 9 on different pages, and are colour coded to indicate the expected progress the students should be making. As students progress through Key Stage 3, their attainment is assessed against the Learning Ladder.



Blue indicates a level below expectations for the year group.



Grey indicates the expected level for the year group.



Red indicates a level beyond that expected for the year group.



English: Year 7

	Key Stage 3			Key Stage 4		Key Stage 5	
Speaking and Listening	You can talk and listen with confidence, changing your language for purpose and audience, using features of Standard English. You listen carefully to others.	Your talk is more interesting because you are starting to vary how you use your voice and your vocabulary. You ask questions that develop other speakers' ideas and make contributions that take account of others' views	You match your talk to the demands of different contexts. You use words precisely and organise your talk to communicate clearly. In discussion you make significant contributions, evaluating others' ideas, and you use Standard English in situations that require it.	You speak fluently, listen closely, participate fully and hold the interest of an audience.	You can initiate speech with an assured use of standard grammar and a wide vocabulary. You can convey difficult ideas and encourage others to participate.	You enjoy discussing different readings of a text, and getting involved in ensuing debates. You are able to factor in contextual issues.	You use literary and linguistic meta-language to discuss textual analyses
Reading	You read and understand a wide range of texts. You can identify key themes, features and characters in a text. You can easily find, use and organise information from a wide range of texts.	You can identify layers of meaning and comment on their importance. You can give personal opinions about poems, plays and novels, and can discuss language, structure and themes to support your comments.	You understand how a range of writers convey meaning and information. You can sustain your reading and concentration over the length of a novel, and realise that there may be more than one interpretation of a text.	You understand what a writer means, and how s/he puts across ideas	You explore and evaluate alternative and original responses, and make original comparisons between texts. You can identify techniques used by the writer to create meaning, and read between the lines.	You have a perceptive understanding of a range of concepts and ideas. You can analyse and interpret contextual factors in order to support an independent reading of a text.	You have a sensitive and consistently insightful awareness of purpose and audience, and are able to make systematic reference to salient features of style and structure.
Writing	You write in full sentences, using a range of styles for different readers. Your spelling is generally accurate, and your handwriting is legible.	Your writing catches the attention of the reader, showing some changes of style and register where appropriate. Your handwriting is neat and legible, and your ideas are organised into paragraphs.	Your writing is confident and shows suitable choices of style in a range of forms. Grammatical features and vocabulary are accurately and effectively used. In story writing characters and settings are developed, and in non-fiction your ideas are organised and make logical sense.	Your writing shows clarity, keeps reader interested, using controlled sentence and paragraph structure.	Your ideas flow from one point to the next, in a range of styles, and technical elements are almost faultless. You carefully craft writing with a variety of sentence lengths and a wide vocabulary which can present complicated ideas effectively.	You explore new styles to fit the demands of purpose and audience. You can confidently select suitable registers for your writing.	You use appropriate, controlled and accurate expression, and have a clear understanding of the genre requirements considering a judicious range of concepts and ideas. You show originality in the deployment of structures and conventions.

English: Year 8

	Key Stage 3		Key Stage 4		Key Stage 5		
Speaking and Listening	You can talk and listen with confidence, changing your language for purpose and audience, using features of Standard English. You listen carefully to others.	Your talk is more interesting because you are starting to vary how you use your voice and your vocabulary. You ask questions that develop other speakers' ideas and make contributions that take account of others' views	You match your talk to the demands of different contexts. You use words precisely and organise your talk to communicate clearly. In discussion you make significant contributions, evaluating others' ideas, and you use Standard English in situations that require it.	You speak fluently, listen closely, participate fully and hold the interest of an audience.	You can initiate speech with an assured use of standard grammar and a wide vocabulary. You can convey difficult ideas and encourage others to participate.	You enjoy discussing different readings of a text, and getting involved in ensuing debates. You are able to factor in contextual issues.	You use literary and linguistic meta-language to discuss textual analyses
Reading	You read and understand a wide range of texts. You can identify key themes, features and characters in a text. You can easily find, use and organise information from a wide range of texts.	You can identify layers of meaning and comment on their importance. You can give personal opinions about poems, plays and novels, and can discuss language, structure and themes to support your comments.	You understand how a range of writers convey meaning and information. You can sustain your reading and concentration over the length of a novel, and realise that there may be more than one interpretation of a text.	You understand what a writer means, and how s/he puts across ideas	You explore and evaluate alternative and original responses, and make original comparisons between texts. You can identify techniques used by the writer to create meaning, and read between the lines.	You have a perceptive understanding of a range of concepts and ideas. You can analyse and interpret contextual factors in order to support an independent reading of a text.	You have a sensitive and consistently insightful awareness of purpose and audience, and are able to make systematic reference to salient features of style and structure.
Writing	You write in full sentences, using a range of styles for different readers. Your spelling is generally accurate, and your handwriting is legible.	Your writing catches the attention of the reader, showing some changes of style and register where appropriate. Your handwriting is neat and legible, and your ideas are organised into paragraphs.	Your writing is confident and shows suitable choices of style in a range of forms. Grammatical features and vocabulary are accurately and effectively used. In story writing characters and settings are developed, and in non-fiction your ideas are organised and make logical sense.	Your writing shows clarity, keeps reader interested, using controlled sentence and paragraph structure.	Your ideas flow from one point to the next, in a range of styles, and technical elements are almost faultless. You carefully craft writing with a variety of sentence lengths and a wide vocabulary which can present complicated ideas effectively.	You explore new styles to fit the demands of purpose and audience. You can confidently select suitable registers for your writing.	You use appropriate, controlled and accurate expression, and have a clear understanding of the genre requirements considering a judicious range of concepts and ideas. You show originality in the deployment of structures and conventions.

English: Year 9

	Key Stage 3			Key Stage 4		Key Stage 5	
Speaking and Listening	You can talk and listen with confidence, changing your language for purpose and audience, using features of Standard English. You listen carefully to others.	Your talk is more interesting because you are starting to vary how you use your voice and your vocabulary. You ask questions that develop other speakers' ideas and make contributions that take account of others' views	You match your talk to the demands of different contexts. You use words precisely and organise your talk to communicate clearly. In discussion you make significant contributions, evaluating others' ideas, and you use Standard English in situations that require it.	You speak fluently, listen closely, participate fully and hold the interest of an audience.	You can initiate speech with an assured use of standard grammar and a wide vocabulary. You can convey difficult ideas and encourage others to participate.	You enjoy discussing different readings of a text, and getting involved in ensuing debates. You are able to factor in contextual issues.	You use literary and linguistic meta-language to discuss textual analyses
Reading	You read and understand a wide range of texts. You can identify key themes, features and characters in a text. You can easily find, use and organise information from a wide range of texts.	You can identify layers of meaning and comment on their importance. You can give personal opinions about poems, plays and novels, and can discuss language, structure and themes to support your comments.	You understand how a range of writers convey meaning and information. You can sustain your reading and concentration over the length of a novel, and realise that there may be more than one interpretation of a text.	You understand what a writer means, and how s/he puts across ideas	You explore and evaluate alternative and original responses, and make original comparisons between texts. You can identify techniques used by the writer to create meaning, and read between the lines.	You have a perceptive understanding of a range of concepts and ideas. You can analyse and interpret contextual factors in order to support an independent reading of a text.	You have a sensitive and consistently insightful awareness of purpose and audience, and are able to make systematic reference to salient features of style and structure.
Writing	You write in full sentences, using a range of styles for different readers. Your spelling is generally accurate, and your handwriting is legible.	Your writing catches the attention of the reader, showing some changes of style and register where appropriate. Your handwriting is neat and legible, and your ideas are organised into paragraphs.	Your writing is confident and shows suitable choices of style in a range of forms. Grammatical features and vocabulary are accurately and effectively used. In story writing characters and settings are developed, and in non-fiction your ideas are organised and make logical sense.	Your writing shows clarity, keeps reader interested, using controlled sentence and paragraph structure.	Your ideas flow from one point to the next, in a range of styles, and technical elements are almost faultless. You carefully craft writing with a variety of sentence lengths and a wide vocabulary which can present complicated ideas effectively.	You explore new styles to fit the demands of purpose and audience. You can confidently select suitable registers for your writing.	You use appropriate, controlled and accurate expression, and have a clear understanding of the genre requirements considering a judicious range of concepts and ideas. You show originality in the deployment of structures and conventions.