

Literature Spine

Core Texts for Depth Study 2022/2023

The Principals

Each cohort will have a suite of core texts that will form the depth study for the academic year.

These texts have been mapped carefully to ensure a breadth of experiences, authors, texts and themes is addressed across the Primary years.

In addition to these texts, there are core poems that each year group will study in detail.

The literature spine has been aligned with the wider curriculum, where appropriate.

Texts are thematically mapped in order to highlight where specific moral, social and ethical issues are indicated or addressed.

Thematic Mapping Key

Heritage text

BAME author or protagonist

Strong female role model

Specific social, ethical, moral issue

The Hedgehog Class (Year 1 / 2)

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
<p>Block 1:</p> <p>Grandad's Island</p> <p>Addresses bereavement through story.</p>	<p>Block 4:</p> <p>Paddington</p> <p>Heritage text</p> <p>Themes of kindness, family and coping with change.</p>	<p>Block 7:</p> <p>The Quangle Wangle's Hat</p> <p>Heritage poem and seminal poet</p>	<p>Block 10:</p> <p>The Rhythm of the Rain</p> <p>Strong themes of environmental responsibility, belonging and world perspectives.</p>	<p>Block 13:</p> <p>Fantastically Great Women who changed the World</p> <p>biographies of women including Mary Anning, Rosa Parks and Frida Kahlo.</p> <p>Themes of bravery, tenacity, resilience and ingenuity.</p>	<p>Block 16:</p> <p>Fantastic Mr Fox</p> <p>Strong themes of morality, patience, family, community and tenacity</p>
<p>Block 2:</p> <p>Aesop's Fables – The Goose that Laid Golden Egg</p> <p>Heritage text.</p> <p>Themes of greed, patience, contentment and foolishness.</p>	<p>Block 5:</p> <p>Paddington</p> <p>Heritage text</p> <p>Themes of kindness, family and coping with change.</p>	<p>Block 8:</p> <p>Coming to England</p> <p>Female Black protagonist and author.</p> <p>Themes of prejudice, coping with change and belonging.</p>	<p>Block 11:</p> <p>The Rhythm of the Rain</p> <p>Strong themes of environmental responsibility, belonging and world perspectives.</p>	<p>Block 14:</p> <p>Fantastically Great Women who changed the World</p> <p>biographies of women including Mary Anning, Rosa Parks and Frida Kahlo.</p> <p>Themes of bravery, tenacity, resilience and ingenuity.</p>	<p>Block 16:</p> <p>Fantastic Mr Fox</p> <p>Strong themes of morality, patience, family, community and tenacity</p>
<p>Block 3:</p> <p>Mrs Noah's Pockets</p> <p>Female author and protagonist</p> <p>Themes of kindness, inclusion and hope.</p>	<p>Block 6:</p> <p>The Christmas Pine</p> <p>Christmas traditions and values. Includes cultural references to British landmarks.</p>	<p>Block 9:</p> <p>The Street Beneath My Feet</p> <p>Strong themes of environmental responsibility</p>	<p>Block 12:</p> <p>Little People Big Dreams - David Attenborough</p> <p>importance of understanding the natural world</p>	<p>Block 15:</p> <p>Aesop's Fables – The Sun and the Wind</p> <p>Heritage text</p> <p>Themes of pride, vanity and self-awareness.</p>	<p>Block 16:</p> <p>Fantastic Mr Fox</p> <p>Strong themes of morality, patience, family, community and tenacity</p>

The Badger Class (Year 3 / 4)

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
<p>Block 1:</p> <p>Greta and the Giants</p> <p>Themes of peaceful protest, climate change and children finding their voice.</p>	<p>Block 4:</p> <p>Leon and the Place Between</p> <p>Themes of magic, adventure, friendship and the unknown.</p>	<p>Block 7:</p> <p>Sam Wu is Not Afraid of the Dark</p> <p>story that focuses on conquering fears</p>	<p>Block 10:</p> <p>Operation Gadgetman</p> <p>Black female protagonist and author.</p> <p>Includes themes of gentle humour, friendship, family and tenacity.</p>	<p>Block 13:</p> <p>The Dancing Bear</p> <p>Themes of friendship, kindness, dilemmas, bravery, loneliness, animal cruelty and community.</p>	<p>Block 16:</p> <p>The Magician's Nephew</p> <p>Heritage narrative chapter book.</p> <p>Some religious references and representation of an ill parent</p>
<p>Block 2:</p> <p>The Pebble in My Pocket</p> <p>Contemporary non-narrative picture book. Female historian author. Narrates the history of the Earth. High volume Tier 3 Science vocabulary</p>	<p>Block 5:</p> <p>Leon and the Place Between</p> <p>Themes of magic, adventure, friendship and the unknown.</p>	<p>Block 8:</p> <p>Sam Wu is Not Afraid of the Dark</p> <p>story that focuses on conquering fears</p>	<p>Block 11:</p> <p>Operation Gadgetman</p> <p>Black female protagonist and author.</p> <p>Includes themes of gentle humour, friendship, family and tenacity.</p>	<p>Block 14:</p> <p>The Dancing Bear</p> <p>Themes of friendship, kindness, dilemmas, bravery, loneliness, animal cruelty and community.</p>	<p>Block 16:</p> <p>The Magician's Nephew</p> <p>Heritage narrative chapter book.</p> <p>Some religious references and representation of an ill parent</p>
<p>Block 3:</p> <p>The Pebble in My Pocket</p> <p>Contemporary non-narrative picture book. Female historian author. Narrates the history of the Earth. High volume Tier 3 Science vocabulary</p>	<p>Block 6:</p> <p>'Twas the Night before Christmas</p> <p>A Classic heritage children's poem.</p>	<p>Block 9:</p> <p>Sam Wu is Not Afraid of the Dark & My Shadow Robert Louis Stephenson</p> <p>A Classic heritage children's poem</p>	<p>Block 12:</p> <p>Operation Gadgetman</p> <p>Black female protagonist and author.</p> <p>Includes themes of gentle humour, friendship, family and tenacity.</p>	<p>Block 15:</p> <p>The Dancing Bear</p> <p>Themes of friendship, kindness, dilemmas, bravery, loneliness, animal cruelty and community.</p>	<p>Block 16:</p> <p>The Magician's Nephew</p> <p>Heritage narrative chapter book.</p> <p>Some religious references and representation of an ill parent</p>

The Owl Class (Year 5 / 6)

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
<p>Block 1: Rooftoppers author Katherine Rundell. story narrating the quest to find the birth mother of feisty orphan Sophie. Themes of friendship, determination, love, ingenuity and those living on the fringes of society.</p>	<p>Block 4: Skellig Representation of an ill sibling. Themes of change, friendship, family, death, fear and adventure.</p>	<p>Block 7: Pig Heart Boy contemporary narrative by Malorie Blackman. Ethical issues include animal rights and the quest to extend life through science. Themes of illness, friendship, loyalty, family and determination.</p>	<p>Block 10: All Aboard the Empire Windrush Told from the perspective of a young traveller. Themes of change, prejudice, national identity and social history.</p>	<p>Block 13: Introduction to Dickens – Oliver Twist Heritage Text life in Victorian times, social and historical contexts</p>	<p>Block 16: Dare to be You range of role models celebrate difference, develop inner confidence and independence. Themes of difference, inspiration and kindness.</p>
<p>Block 2: Rooftoppers author Katherine Rundell. story narrating the quest to find the birth mother of feisty orphan Sophie. Themes of friendship, determination, love, ingenuity and those living on the fringes of society.</p>	<p>Block 5: Skellig Representation of an ill sibling. Themes of change, friendship, family, death, fear and adventure.</p>	<p>Block 8: Pig Heart Boy ontemporary narrative by Malorie Blackman. Ethical issues include animal rights and the quest to extend life through science. Themes of illness, friendship, loyalty, family and determination.</p>	<p>Block 11: All Aboard the Empire Windrush Told from the perspective of a young traveller. Themes of change, prejudice, national identity and social history.</p>	<p>Block 14: Introduction to Dickens – Oliver Twist Heritage Text life in Victorian times, social and historical contexts</p>	<p>Block 16: Dare to be You range of role models celebrate difference, develop inner confidence and independence. Themes of difference, inspiration and kindness.</p>
<p>Block 3: Rooftoppers & The Listeners Walter de la Mare author Katherine Rundell. story narrating the quest to find the birth mother</p>	<p>Block 6: Skellig & A Carol From Flanders Representation of an ill sibling. Themes of change, friendship, family, death, fear and adventure.</p>	<p>Block 9: How to Live Forever story explores the ethics and implications of immortality.</p>	<p>Block 12: The Island Narrative parallels to the themes addressed in the Windrush CUSP unit. Themes of refugees, xenophobia, social politics and human rights.</p>	<p>Block 15: Introduction to Dickens – Oliver Twist Heritage Text life in Victorian times, social and historical contexts</p>	<p>Block 16: Dare to be You range of role models celebrate difference, develop inner confidence and independence. Themes of difference.</p>



<p>of feisty orphan Sophie.</p> <p>Themes of friendship, determination, love, ingenuity and those living on the fringes of society.</p> <p>A heritage poem</p> <p>Themes of the supernatural, fantasy and mortality.</p>	<p>This core heritage poem</p> <p>Themes of kindness, conflict and humanity.</p>		<p>Haunting but beautiful illustrations.</p>		<p>inspiration and kindness.</p>
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