

Noel-Baker Academy Literacy Strategy 2021-2022

Rationale

At Noel-Baker Academy, every member of staff is a teacher of Literacy. We believe that when students are in possession of effective Literacy skills, they will be empowered to succeed, both in academic life and beyond.

At Noel-Baker Academy, 'Literacy' is defined as **the possession of the necessary knowledge to read for meaning and comprehension, and the possession of the necessary knowledge to communicate effectively in both spoken and written English.**

Mechanisms

LEAD

All Academy staff have a duty to model the highest standards of spoken and written Literacy. This includes, but is not limited to:

- The Academy website
- Academy communications – written, verbal, social media
- Lesson resources
- The promotion of the Academy principles of SHAPE, STEPS and PRESENT.

EMPOWER

In order to empower students with the knowledge required to be successfully literate, the Academy curriculum will offer the following opportunities:

- Wherever possible and appropriate, schemes of learning will provide opportunities for reading of challenging text, putting reading at the heart of the Academy curriculum offer
- All schemes of learning will include explicit teaching of subject-specific terminology and etymology
- There will be explicit teaching of spelling, punctuation, grammar and syntax across all subjects
- At the start of the Academy day, all students will recite a poem from the NBA Anthology (or additional poems as identified by our students) which increase students' cultural capital and align with our Academy values
- Where students require additional support to engage with written and/or spoken communications, appropriate support and intervention mechanisms will be put in place – these include 'Direct Instruction' and 'Thinking Reading'
- All students will experience 'reading for pleasure' in our Daily Reading session – students are read to for 20 minutes at the start of every day, from novels which staff have identified as being 'must reads' before the end of secondary education. (Our initial 5 novel are detailed at the end of this document.)

ACHIEVE

All Academy staff at Noel-Baker will have high expectations of students' spoken and written communications both in lessons and throughout the Academy.

DRIVE

Students will engage with the Academy expectations for high standards of Literacy:

- Students will demonstrate a drive for accuracy in their communications and will evidence this with the use of green pen to make improvements where necessary.

Lead Staff

SHW – AHT - Quality of Education

JLI– Director of Communications and Classics – Responsible For Literacy Across The Curriculum

OEH and CTW – Literacy Leads

SBR – AHT & SENCO

Links – This strategy runs in conjunction with the following documents:

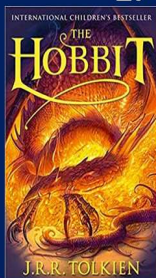
*NBA Formative Assessment Strategy

*NBA Curriculum Strategy

*NBA SEND Strategy (Literacy Catch-Up Funding and Quality First Teaching).

LEADers Are Readers – 2021-2022

1. The Hobbit – J.R.R. Tolkien



In this fantasy novel, we are introduced to Tolkien's imaginary world of Middle Earth in its Third Age. This novel serves as a prologue to the trilogy 'The Lord of the Rings', and introduces us to the morally-principled Bilbo Baggins.

Themes of teamwork and community, good versus evil, and resilience and fortitude permeate the novel.

2. The Bone Sparrow – Zana Fraillon



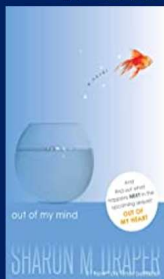
Subhi is a refugee. Born in an Australian permanent detention centre after his mother fled the violence of their distant homeland, life behind the fences is all he has ever known. The novel explores themes of loss, home, identity, belonging, acceptance and stereotyping.

3. The Midnight Library – Matt Haig



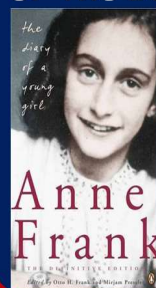
'The Midnight Library' ponders the infinite possibilities of life. We follow the story of a young woman named Nora Seed, who lives a monotonous, ordinary life and feels unwanted and unaccomplished. One night, her despair reaches a peak and she attempts to end her life. The novel deals with challenging and important themes linked to Mental Health and Wellbeing, and highlights that there is always a dawn after a dark period.

4. Out Of My Mind – Sharon Draper



This is the heart-warming story of a girl called Melody who would love to be able to talk and walk but, with Cerebral Palsy, a conventional teenage life is beyond her. Journey with Melody through her fight to her enjoy her teens, her schooling, and her social life, on **her** terms.

5. The Diary Of A Young Girl – Anne Frank



"The most important message of the story is that all people have the right to live in freedom".

'The Diary Of A Young Girl' begins on Anne's 13th birthday (12 June 1942) when she gets a diary. It tells the story of her family, who live in Frankfurt, Germany and suddenly have to go into hiding as a result of Hitler and the Nazi Party's treatment of Jews in Europe during World War II. They escape to Amsterdam, where they go into hiding with other Jews. The diary ends suddenly on 1 August 1944. We learn that the diary was left behind when the hiders were discovered and taken to concentration camps.