



## Programme Guide 2020-21

English  
**Mastery**

Curriculum,  
Mastery +  
Development

[www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk](http://www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk)



Ark**Curriculum+**

## Ark Curriculum+

Grown out of Ark, one of the highest performing Multi Academy Trusts in the UK, our team of well-researched and highly skilled educational designers and trainers guide teachers and their students towards subject mastery.

Our mission is to empower teachers to give *every* young person, regardless of their background, the subject knowledge and skills that will allow them to succeed.

### Curriculum

We believe that great curriculum design and delivery leads to improved teaching and learner outcomes, which impacts positively on children's life chances.

### Mastery

Evidence shows that students make more progress when they have been equipped to master a subject. They do this by understanding its fundamental concepts in sufficient depth that they can apply subject knowledge in unfamiliar contexts.

### Development

Our commitment is to empower and equip schools to provide high-quality subject teaching, through curriculum collaboration and integrated professional development, in order to develop young people's subject mastery.



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*The difference between those students who have followed the English Mastery programme and those in the higher years that missed out is simply staggering.*

**Hayley Ross,**  
Vice Principal,  
Hewett Academy

Our connection with Ark gives us our experience and our specialist expertise, earned while we developed and taught subject curricula across our own network of 38 successful academies in the UK.

Our curriculum programmes have been proven to:

- **have a positive impact on student progress and attainment**
- **deepen students' understanding of key concepts**
- **engage students and increase their enjoyment of lessons**
- **make more impactful use of teacher time**
- **drive change and improve teaching**

Our partner schools are supported every step of the way. We believe in working *with* schools to enable systematic, long-term change to happen from within.

Through improved subject knowledge, pedagogic content knowledge, curriculum and lesson design and formative assessment, we enable teachers to make informed adaptations to ensure all lessons are right for the children in their particular class.

Our programmes are kept fresh with innovation and improvement, informed by evidence derived from world-leading educational research and feedback from our partner schools.

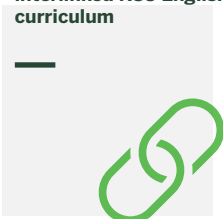


# The English Mastery programme.

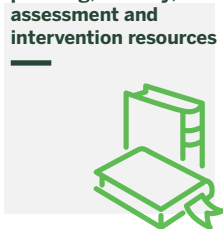
English Mastery is already having an impact in hundreds of secondary schools across the UK, improving English skills and teaching.

Specifically designed for UK classrooms, the programme offers:

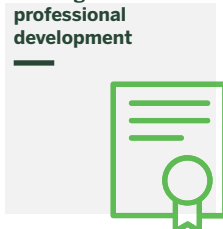
A well-sequenced and interlinked KS3 English curriculum



A full suite of classroom planning, delivery, assessment and intervention resources



Integrated training and professional development



The programme is available in three tiers: Mastery, Leadership or Tailored – depending on the requirements of your school.

For more details and to find out our programme pricing, see page 22.



**Teachers in our partner schools repeatedly tell us what a difference our programme is making:**

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*The English Mastery programme has enabled our teachers and leaders to put subject knowledge and passion back at the heart of what they do, allowing them to spend more time on teacher craft, differentiation and how best to deliver content to meet each child's needs.*

**Alison Enyon, Oasis Community Learning**

“

*The English Mastery programme does so much more than improve pupil outcomes. It is a key way to address the cultural capital deficit that our children experience. The programme prepares pupils for their future.*

**Becky Curtis, Principal, Ark Elvin Academy**

“

*English Mastery makes you think about subject-specific pedagogy in a different way. I am using things from English Mastery for whole school CPD — it has definitely had an impact on my teaching practice and our school at large.*

**Narayan Deb, Assistant Principal, Ark Globe Academy**

Visit our website to hear more about the positive impact English Mastery has had in other secondary schools:  
**[www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/case-studies](http://www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/case-studies)**

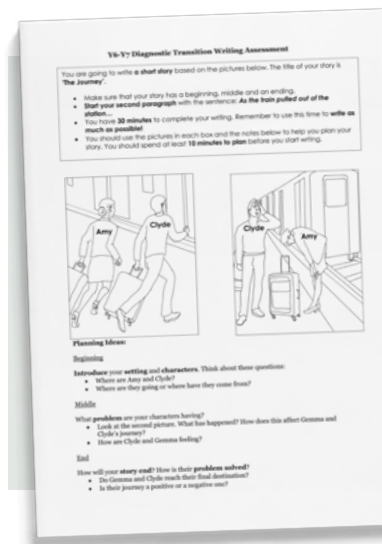
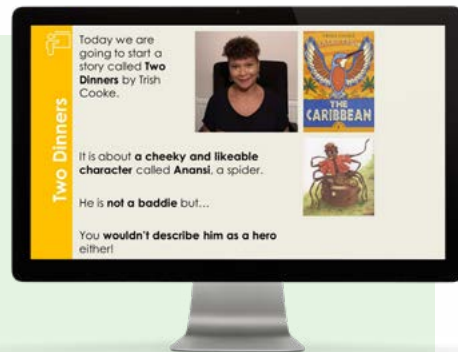
# Supporting you through Covid-19.

As teachers ourselves, we understand how extraordinarily difficult this year has been for all schools. We have made some important changes to our English Mastery programme this year to help support you in the year ahead:

## Support for transition and remote learning

We've produced a suite of transition units to make sure that students in KS3 get off to a flying start. These include Ancient Tales units for Years 7 and 8, and *Short Change* - a challenging, provocative short story that allows Year 9 students to engage in relevant, modern narrative.

We've also provided PDFs of our self-study workbooks which can be downloaded from our **MyMastery** platform. These can be printed to support learning at home where there may be digital access barriers.



## Identifying and planning recovery for gaps in learning

We've created a range of quizzes, reteach tasks, and ongoing guidance to allow you to identify and close any gaps in students' learning from the summer term disruption.

We have also created amended programmes of study to help you understand the learning which has likely been missed due to the pandemic.

## Supporting great teaching

The Education Endowment Foundation have identified that a sustained response will be required to negate the impact of school closures and that *'Great teaching is the most important lever schools have to improve outcomes for their pupils'*.

At Ark Curriculum Plus, we've always believed that the teacher makes the difference and we're committed to supporting ongoing teacher professional development.



Our new **MyMastery** learning platform divides a year's worth of curriculum into easily accessible chunks, called **staging posts**. Each covers approximately 8-12 hours of learning, with all the curriculum planning, classroom resources and integrated professional development you'll need to teach that part of the curriculum.

## Focused intervention for significant gaps



Every learner will have been affected by Covid-19 differently.

We believe that subject mastery is achievable for all students and so our programme design has always catered for mixed abilities accessing the same curriculum.

Our **foundation pathway** supports students currently working below age-related expectations as they catch up with their peers. Students on the foundation pathway study and access the same rich curriculum, but we give them additional tailored help to scaffold their early progress through English.



# Our approach.

The English Mastery programme has been informed, delivered and refined by expert English teachers from across the country. Their experience has contributed to the development of the programme as a practical, powerful driver of student attainment.

In addition to teacher consultation, **four pedagogical pillars** combine to drive student progress. Each pillar is rooted in the latest cognitive and educational research.



## Our four pedagogical pillars

1.

A cumulative, knowledge-rich curriculum develops students' ability in English.

2.

Discrete grammar teaching improves precision and accuracy in students' writing.

3.

Systematic instruction of tier 2 vocabulary closes the word and attainment gap.

4.

Using standardised norm-referenced student work improves accuracy in assessment.

# Proven impact.

English Mastery has been shown by The Brilliant Club to give students on average **four months' additional progress** when compared to those not studying the programme.

“

*The English Mastery programme had a significant positive effect on pupils' English scores, regardless of pupils' prior attainment and demographic characteristics.*

The Brilliant Club impact study



## In our annual partner school survey:

**80%** of teachers agree that English Mastery is helping to enhance their subject knowledge

**93%** of teachers strongly agree that English Mastery is having a positive impact on student progress

**86%** of teachers strongly agree that English Mastery helps to reduce workload

# What do I get when I join the programme?

## The English Mastery Curriculum

Available for  
Key Stage 3

Being a confident and articulate English student involves a large number of complicated skills. We are convinced that the best way to create these sorts of learners is by introducing them systematically to the wonders of grammar, vocabulary and reading for pleasure, alongside the traditional literature teaching that we all know and love.

Our curriculum is therefore divided into strands covering **Literary Heritage**, **Mastery Writing** and **Reading for Pleasure**. We have designed every part of the curriculum to complement and build on the knowledge of other units.

We understand that different schools have different timetables for English, so offer curriculum materials to suit your timetable, whether you have four, five or six hours of English per week.

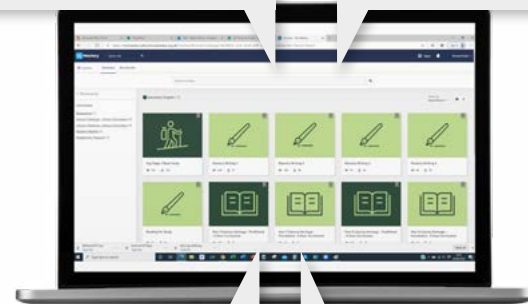
Our curriculum is designed to ensure your school fully meets the requirements of the 2014 National Curriculum for England.

## Access to the MyMastery learning platform

Our new **MyMastery learning platform** is at the heart of our programme – offering easy ‘anytime, anywhere’ access to the full suite of English Mastery content.

Curriculum maps  
and programmes  
of study

Planning  
and lesson  
resources



Bite-sized PD  
videos and  
tutorials

Tools to  
assess for  
mastery





## Lesson resources

Our suite of lesson resources exemplifies our classroom principles and supports teachers' ongoing professional development.

We understand the importance of creative freedom when planning lessons. We also know the needs of teachers and students vary hugely. Our materials therefore address a full spectrum of needs and can be fully customised to suit your class.

## Literary Heritage resources

The Literary Heritage units are the core of our KS3 curriculum. Classic texts and much-loved stories have been selected to introduce students to some of the best characters and most iconic stories in literature, as well as learning the cultural capital that will enrich their reading of similar books.

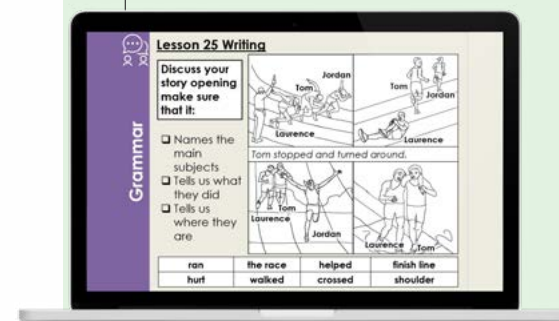


Fully editable PowerPoint slides are provided for each lesson



## Mastery Writing resources

The Mastery Writing units take a 'stage not age' approach. Units are designed to help students gain a genuine command of the English language through instruction that is appropriate for their current level of understanding.



## Reading for Pleasure resources

This strand is designed to give pupils the opportunity to spend extended periods of time reading, and to learn to enjoy reading great books.



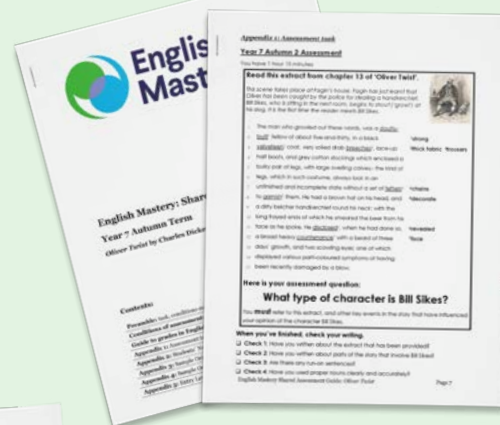
Each lesson follows a four-part structure:  
Do Now > Reading time > Vocabulary > Exit Ticket (to reflect on learning)

## Assessment and intervention

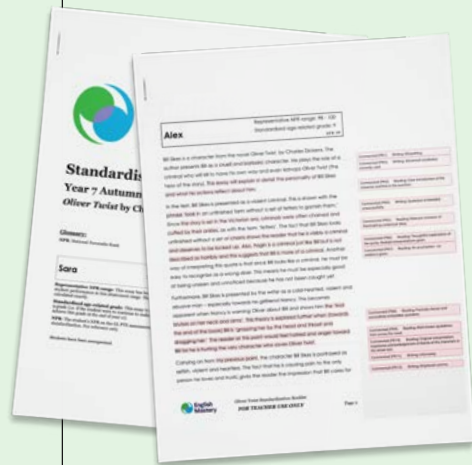
We provide a fully planned and integrated summative and formative assessment model that complements and advances the skills students develop during their English Mastery lessons.

### Standardised assessments

These are provided for each Literary Heritage unit, as well as a wide-ranging assessment guide and standardisation booklet.

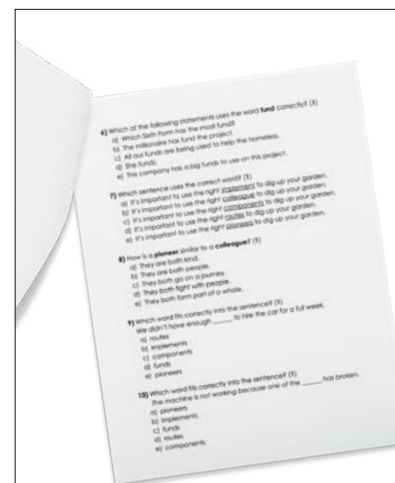


The standardisation booklets include exemplars from real students, supporting the use of comparative judgment rather than a mark scheme rubric. These provide a reliable benchmark against which to compare students' work.



### Quizzes and practice tasks

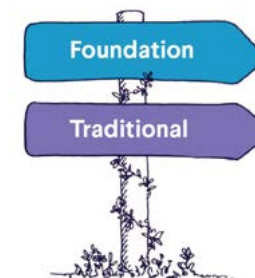
There are opportunities for formative assessment in each lesson, with practice tasks such as *True & False* and *Quotation Hunters* to check for misconceptions. Fortnightly multiple choice quizzes also allow you to identify where gaps lie, with reteach tasks provided.



### Pathways

We offer two pathways through our Literary Heritage units: **Traditional** and **Foundation**.

The Traditional pathway is for students who are at or above age-related expectations whilst the Foundation pathway supports students currently working below age-related expectations. Students on the Foundation pathway study and access the same rich curriculum, but are given additional tailored help to scaffold their early progress through English.



## Professional development

### Mastery

Our Mastery tier includes access to a wide range of professional development modules to support your teachers as they work through the English Mastery curriculum.

When you join us, all of your teachers are set up for success through our online introductory training, accessed via MyMastery. Then, for the continued development of your team, our professional development content is divided into chunks or 'staging posts' that allow easy access to the knowledge and training available for each unit.

Available on demand, your teachers can access the training they need when it suits them best – offering flexibility and support at the right points through the year.



## Specialist support

### Leadership

Our Leadership package includes all of the online professional development and training content from the Mastery tier, PLUS

#### Live induction training for new teachers

Collaborative training for everyone who is teaching English Mastery for the first time.

#### Subject mastery leadership course for your English lead

Our one-year *English Mastery Leadership* course will expand your in-house expertise, developing subject leadership skills, pedagogical understanding and classroom practice that can be cascaded across your English department.

#### A dedicated School Development Lead and four remote mastery leadership development sessions

Your school will be allocated a Development Lead who will support you with professional development, additional training and action planning throughout the year. These are experienced classroom teachers or senior leaders who have been carefully selected and trained as English Mastery specialists.

#### One ticket to our annual conference

Each year we hold an Ark Curriculum Plus Conference which brings together partner schools to think and talk about English education, hear inspirational speakers and share best practice.

### Tailored

If you are looking for a more bespoke service, then our Tailored package allows you the flexibility for expert support, advice and guidance including two school development visits per year and on-site training options for the full teaching team.

To find out more, visit [www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/join-us](http://www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/join-us)

# Now available in three flexible tiers.

In line with our mission to make improving life chances accessible to all schools, we have now made our programmes available in three flexible packages: Mastery, Leadership and Tailored – offering different levels of support, depending on the requirements of each school.

This means that those schools who may not wish to take on the full face-to-face training model of the Tailored programme, can still deliver and embed a mastery approach with full curriculum and professional development – all delivered online via our MyMastery learning platform.

## English Mastery – pricing

We are a non-profit organisation.

The schools that we work with are charged a financial contribution which goes towards delivering and developing the programmes. An outline of our pricing structure is below – but do get in touch to receive a quote for your specific setting.

Mastery	Leadership	Tailored
From £2,000	From £4,500	From £7,000

For full details of the support included in each programme package, visit [www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/join-us](http://www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/join-us)



## Choose the package that's right for your school

Our friendly partnerships team will be happy to talk you through the programme and help you decide on the right approach and package for your school.

To book a demo, or sign up for a free trial, contact us on:

E: [partnerships@arkcurriculumplus.org.uk](mailto:partnerships@arkcurriculumplus.org.uk)  
T: 020 3116 6363

Or book a call online at  
[www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/book-a-demo](http://www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/book-a-demo)



**Also  
available:**



**Mathematics  
Mastery**

We also offer a Mathematics Mastery programme for Key Stage 3.

Visit **[www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/our-programmes](http://www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/our-programmes)** to find out more.

*English Mastery is a curriculum  
programme from*

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