

Drama



Our ethos in Drama throughout the key stages is; making theatre to change the world. We aim to empower students to make theatre that explores, educates and challenges an audience. We believe that making theatre should be relevant to the world our students live in. We aim for them to affect change.

Key Stage 3 (years 7-8)

Drama gives students the chance to be thoroughly creative and at the same time deeply analytical. It gives students the opportunity to discover their identity through their theatre making. When walking around the drama department it will be evident that our students are offered a curriculum package that is varied, exciting, highly creative and encourages them to meet extremely high expectations.

Drama students are expected to learn skills in three key areas; creating, performing, analysing and evaluating, all of which are explored through 4 key avenues: *The Performer, The Director and The Designer and The Reviewer*. The skills content we teach at Key Stage 3 derives from these areas.

Students explore genre-based theatre, physical theatre, devising, reviewing theatre and design skills (lighting, sound etc).

A historical, political, social and cultural knowledge of Drama is also explored through our Key Stage 3 curriculum. Students are exposed to a variety of practitioners, including Stanislavski, Brecht, Frantic Assembly, in addition to playwrights including Shakespeare, Godber, Grimm Brothers and Blackman.

Drama teachers strive to achieve the best outcomes for all students. Therefore, it is important to remember that we are the experts in the room. Modelling good practice of creating, performing, analysing and evaluating in drama is an embedded aspect of our teaching and learning. This has also proved to be the best way to inspire students; when they see their teacher doing something really well, they too strive to be the best they can be. Learning and expected outcomes become much clearer to students when a skill is modelled to the highest standard possible.

Drama is also explored through our extra-curricular programme, which includes a bi-annual school production, participation in the Shakespeare Schools Festival (Y7-9) and the National Theatre Connections competition (Y10-13) alongside Performing Arts Group and Devising club in terms 5/6.



Key Stage 4 (years 9-11)

From Year 9 we:

- Offer 'breadth' of curriculum at a more advanced level
- Explore the concept of creativity and 'practice' this skill
- Delve deeper into practitioner style and explore its social, political, historical and cultural influences on modern day theatre
- Apply practitioner style to their own theatre making on a deeper level
- Gain confidence in solo performance
- Explore a wider range of texts
- Begin to learn how to articulate their creative process through written form
- Cultural capital - the intention is to expose students to more theatre than their minimum 1 show requirement
- Freedom of creativity - beyond the exam specification

GCSE Drama is centred around empowering students in being able to CHANGE THE WORLD with their theatre making

The Edexcel GCSE gives students the independence to complete Coursework in their own time unlike other exam boards. We are also able to choose our own stimulus for devising work - this means we can draw on current issues/events that students can relate to and are passionate about.