

Why we teach Drama

We aim to provide a wide reaching and challenging curriculum that will inspire all students to be creative, whilst building confidence and developing their self-expression. In order to support the development of these skills we aim to have a nurturing and stimulating environment.

Our aim is that our curriculum will:

- Enable students to reach their full potential and instil a passion for learning.
- Enable students to understand what drama is and its place in society: history, culture and context.
- Facilitate students to explore a wide range of perspectives allowing them to develop a deeper understanding and sense of empathy for the world in which they live.
- Develop students performing skills in a variety of contexts broken down into vocal and physical skills to allow students to speak and move with fluency and clarity.
- Allow students to develop not only their performance skills but understanding of other carers/training including directing and technical theatre exploration.
- Encourage all students to cooperate, share ideas, respond to their own work and the work of others including professionals.
- Introduce students to a wide range of dramatic texts, forms and starting points through interpretation to enable the development of opinions and independent thinking.
- Introduce students to a wide range of theatrical styles, genres and practitioners from around the world.
- Provide the opportunity for students to take part in extracurricular activities including productions, performance evenings and trips to the theatre.
- Develop students understanding of careers in the arts and how skills can be transferred to support future opportunities.

The Drama curriculum supports the development and growth of student's spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of learning. Throughout lessons, students are encouraged to reflect, ask questions and consider alternative perspectives. British Values are supported through lesson topics, key questions and the expectation that students are able to work with every student in the class. Through group work, students are actively encouraged to share ideas, learn to compromise and to display mutual respect and tolerance.

Throughout the curriculum, students will have the opportunity to take part in theatre visits, take part in workshops from visiting theatre companies and explore a wide range of texts and approaches to creating theatre. Trips have included outings to see Hamilton, The Lorax,

Wind in the Willows, Cirque du Soleil, Woman in Black and Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night- Time. We have also worked with the Old Vic Theatre, Splendid Theatre Company and Mousetrap theatre projects.

All students will have the opportunity to watch Live Theatre as we stream a production from the National Theatre to all KS3 students in Year 7-9 removing any potential barriers.

Extra-curricular work is also an integral part of the drama curriculum where students are provided with additional opportunities to share their passion, enthusiasm and commitment to the Arts. Students take part in a wide range of events from performing to local primary schools, community festivals, open evenings and the summer festival to full productions. Students have taken part in the Shakespeare Schools Festival, performed a rendition of J.M Barrie's Peter Pan to raise money for Great Ormond Street Hospital and will be taking part in the National Theatre Connections in this academic year.