

Year 7 - Drama

What will be studied?

Topic(s)

Introduction to Drama (Storytelling) - We use the fable of the Tortoise and the Hare to begin to explore what drama is and narrative devices. We use drama techniques such as mime, freeze frame, people as props, narration, flashback and thought tracking to bring to life a story students are familiar with and begin to look at basic characterisation. Students are encouraged to take an alternative viewpoint and tell the story of what really happened that day. This unit encourages students to work as part of a team, share ideas and use their imagination.

Hogwarts - Based around the story of Harry Potter by J.K Rowling students are able to create their own character from scratch and explore the journey/life at Hogwarts school of magic. Students create and develop a character over a number of weeks with an aim to show clear vocal and physical characterisation. Students are encouraged to explore how they can use drama techniques to create illusions on stage that will capture the audience. Students will improve on the skills they learnt during the first unit and begin to find more sophisticated ways to embed these into performance.

Dramaturgy - Live Theatre - Students will think about the different jobs/roles that are required to bring a production together from front of house to designer. Students will consider the different aspects of technical theatre from costume, lighting, sound to set and props/stage furniture using specific vocabulary. Students will reflect upon the meaning behind choices that directors/designers make and what impact this might have on the audience. Students will then be introduced to a production from the National Theatre that will be deconstructed and analysed.

Dramaturgy - From Page to Stage - Students will be introduced to a script that they will study over a number of weeks. They will consider the different elements for putting on a production of this play from costume to lighting to on and off-stage roles. Students will learn about different types of staging and the process that it takes to bring a play to life. Students will rehearse, learn lines and prepare to perform an interpretation of key moments from the play. Students will apply what they have learnt from the Live Theatre unit to their own work.

Twisted Fairy Tales - Students will take all the skills they have learnt over the past year to create a twisted fairy tale. Students will consider how to clearly portray a twist of a well-known fairytale to an audience. Characterisation skills (Vocal and Physical skills), techniques, ensemble work, and rehearsal skills will be refined.

How do you assess the learning?

Students will be assessed on 5 areas in Drama:
 Creating/Devising
 Rehearsal
 Performance

Curriculum Information for the Website

Techniques/Genre/Style Evaluation

There will be a balance between creative homework to enable students to share ideas, use their imagination, develop characterisation, research and prepare for assessment and evaluation.

Assessments will be a combination of group and individual performances, subject knowledge written assessments and SMHW quizzes.

End of Year Examination

How will I be assessed at the end of the year?

There will be a 1 hour written exam and a formative practical assessment. Students will have the opportunity to apply knowledge from the year to develop responses to questions.

How can I help my child?

Guidance and advice

Use the GCSE website BBC Bitesize to help challenge your theory
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zgnv9j6>

Read plays around themes, genres and topics you are interested in. Samuel French has a great selection and they have an enormous selection in their London Store. Equally you can visit the National Theatre Bookshop.

Talk to your teachers to see if they can recommend any play texts for you to read.

Take part in any extracurricular opportunities and clubs that are happening in the department.

Use show my homework to help ensure that all tasks are completed.

Visiting the theatre and watching different styles of performance. Local theatre's include; Lyric Hammersmith, Beck Theatre, Hayes, The Questors Theatre, Acton, Bush Theatre, National Theatre, Kiln Theatre and many more.

Visiting the V & A museum where there is an exhibition about theatre including examples of costume from west end productions.

Join an amateur dramatic drama club/ youth theatre group.

Many theatre's offer youth weeks during school holidays and half terms.
