

Year 8 - Drama

What will be studied?

Topic(s)

Melodrama - Students will explore the genres of Melodrama. Students will look at the stock characters found in each genre and explore the key characteristics that make them identifiable. Students will consider what comedy is and how it can be created.

Mask Work – Students will explore the rules of mask work and how to use Trestle character masks. They will experiment with physicality, gesture, and expression to bring masked characters to life.

The Terrible Fate of Humpty Dumpty - Students will recap key techniques, performance and rehearsal skills from Year 7 through devising from a play. The play explores themes of bullying and responsibility. Students will use the play to begin considering structuring their devised work, producing a 10 minute performance at the end.

Dramaturgy - Live Theatre - 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 in lessons together.

How do you assess the learning?

Students will be assessed on 4 areas in Drama: Rehearsal, Performance, Theatre Knowledge, 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 quizzes as well as evaluation of their own work.

End of Year Examination

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

There will be a 1 hour Theatre Knowledge and Evaluation Quiz and a 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/examspecs/zkvm2sg>

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 librarian 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 Google Classroom 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.

Join an amateur dramatic drama club/ youth theatre group.

Many theatres offer youth weeks during school holidays and half terms.
