



DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Curriculum Overview



The curriculum of the school reflects the demands of the National Curriculum. It is designed in order to provide all pupils with a broad, balanced education relevant to their needs both now and in the future.

Departmental Overview

The Drama Department comprises two specialist teachers and has access to a state-of-the-art drama theatre with integrated lighting and sound systems, sound system control room, backstage preparation area and an audience space of 200.

Departmental Staff

Mrs R Parkinson	Head of Drama
Ms K Forrest	Drama Teacher
Ms K Forrest	SLT Line Manager

Year 7 Drama (KS3)

Examination/Specification Board

Curriculum Overview

Pupils have three terms of Drama in Year 7 and are taught six schemes of work that are based around the Assessment Objectives below. These objectives are guided by the skills required for GCSE Drama.

A01-Creating Create and develop ideas to create meaning for theatrical performance.

A02-Performing Apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance.

A03-Responding Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed.

A04-Evaluating Analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others.

A variety of exploratory strategies and performance are based around the following:

Term 1

Foundation Skills- Building a group dynamic: Creative and practical skills.

Component 3 Skills-Text from perspectives-How would a performer, designer and director approach this text?

Term 2

Component 2 Skills-How to communicate meaning thorough my performance-How can I show the audience what I mean?

Component 1 Skills-Exploration of the process leading to theatre-how did we get there?

Term 3

Component 1 and 2 Skills-'Read all about it'-Exploration of a stimulus/theme about current issues-How can I keep my audience's attention?

Component 1, 2 and 3 Skills-Reflect to improve project-How can I improve in Drama?

- There is some flexibility in the delivery of the schemes of work as assessment is criteria based rather than content based.
- Even within set schemes of work outcomes and development will vary dependent upon the make-up of each individual group.

Examinations/Key Assessments

Pupils are assessed continuously in their drama by the class teacher, other pupils and themselves as they evaluate their work every lesson. In Year 7 pupils are taught how to assess their own and other pupils' work to help them become more independent in their learning and to make them more aware of what they need to do to achieve each grade with the 9-1 scale. Pupils in Drama will be examined and graded in Drama formally at three points in the year to coincide with whole school assessment weeks. Further to this there will be another three assessment points to check progress.

Homework

All pupils will be asked to complete at least one homework every half term and this will typically be a creative task to prepare or develop an idea.

How Parents can Help

- Read regularly with their son to improve his reading skills and feed his imagination.
- Encourage and support their son to take part in in-school and after school drama activities.

Year 8 Drama (KS3)

Examination/Specification Board

Curriculum Overview

Pupils have three terms of Drama in Year 8 and are taught 3 schemes of work that are based around the Assessment Objectives below. These objectives are guided by the skills required for GCSE Drama.

A01-**Creating** Create and develop ideas to create meaning for theatrical performance.

A02-**Performing** Apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance.

A03-**Responding** Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed.

A04-**Evaluating** Analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others.

A variety of exploratory strategies and performance are based around the following:

Term 1

Component 1 Skills-‘Read all about it’-Exploration of a stimulus/theme about current issues-How can I keep my audience’s attention?

Term 2

Component 2 Skills-How to communicate meaning thorough my performance-How can I show the audience what I mean?

Term 3

Component 3 skills- Text from perspectives-How would a performer, designer and director approach this text?

Component 1, 2 and 3 Skills-Reflect to improve project-How can I improve in Drama?

- There is some flexibility in the delivery of the schemes of work as assessment is criteria based rather than content based.
- Even within set schemes of work outcomes and development will vary dependent upon the make-up of each individual group.
- Pupils are taught only 3 schemes of work (termly instead of half termly) in year 8 to allow them to develop more depth in their work and build upon the skills they were taught in year 7.

Examinations/Key Assessments

Pupils are assessed continuously in their drama by the class teacher, other pupils and themselves as they evaluate their work every lesson. In Year 8 pupils are taught how to assess their own and other pupils’ work to help them become more independent in their learning and to make them more aware of what they need to do to achieve each grade with the 9-1 scale. Pupils in Drama will be examined and graded in Drama formally at three points in the year to coincide with whole school assessment weeks. Further to this there will be another three assessment points to check progress.

Homework

All pupils will be asked to complete at least one homework every half term and this will typically be a creative task to prepare or develop an idea.

How Parents can Help

- Read regularly with their son to improve his reading skills and feed his imagination.
- Encourage and support their son to take part in in-school and after school drama activities.

Year 9/10/11 Drama (KS4)

Examination/Specification Board

EDEXCEL

Curriculum Overview

There are three separate components at GCSE:

- Component 1: Students will select their own choice of stimulus and work in groups of 3-6 performers to devise a piece of theatre. Students will record the creative process throughout, analysing and evaluating the devising process as a portfolio.
- Component 2: Students will interpret, explore and either perform in and/or design for two key extracts from a performance text (up to 6 students) Students will also write approx. 100 words detailing their artistic intention for the piece
- Component 3: Students will sit a written examination (1hr 30mins). This exam will consist of two sections: Section A – this requires students to answer short and extended questions on a text that has been explored practically; Section B – this requires students to write about a live theatre performance.

Examinations/Key Assessments

- Component 1: 40% (Teacher assessed, externally moderated) 60 marks
- Component 2: 20% (Externally assessed by a visiting examiner) 48 marks Component 3: 40% (Written examination, 1hr 30min) 60 marks

Homework

All students use a Drama note-book which is used to record ideas and evaluate practical work. Homework will usually be either reflection on work which has been completed or planning which will contribute to portfolio work. Essays will be written to prepare for the written examination in component 3.

How Parents can Help

Please support your son by encouraging him to get involved in Drama out of school; theatre events, clubs and rehearsals. As practical exams come around, you may need to help him to learn lines!

Year 12/13 Drama & Theatre Studies (KS5)

Examination/Specification Board

EDEXCEL

Curriculum Overview

The A Level Drama and Theatre Studies specification has been designed to support students in developing their:

- creative skills
- practical skills
- devising skills
- self-reflection skills

Practical focus

The new specification focuses on the practical exploration of performance texts, including exploring them in light of the work of theatre practitioners. The performance texts that will be studied for the exam will require students to articulate how they would perform in certain roles, design for certain scenes and interpret a text for performance, putting practical work at the heart of the course. You will acquire a knowledge and understanding of the language of drama and theatre as well as develop your performing and analytical skills.

Examinations/Key Assessments

The course demands practical, creative and communication skills (both in speech and writing) in almost equal measure. Students will devise their own piece of theatre and support it with a written (40%); perform or design directly from a theatre (20%); and complete a written exam paper from the point of view of a designer, director and/or audience member (40%).

Homework

All students use a Drama note-book which is used to record ideas and evaluate practical work. Homework will usually be either reflection on work which has been completed or planning which will contribute to portfolio work. Essays will be written to prepare for the written examination.

How Parents can Help

Please support your son/daughter by encouraging him to get involved in Drama out of school; theatre events, clubs and rehearsals. As practical exams come around, you may need to help him to learn lines!