

Drama

Through Drama pupils develop key transferable skills such as communication, self-management, self-belief, teamwork, problem solving, creativity and critical thinking skills, which prepare them to succeed in life after school.

The Drama department aims to develop a broad understanding and appreciation of the drama medium through curriculum-based learning and a wealth of exciting extracurricular opportunities. Learning is enhanced by state of the arts facilities and high-quality educational partnerships continue to enrich our pupils' experience of life at the school and beyond, raising aspirations, increasing their cultural capital, contextual knowledge, knowledge of the performing arts industry and appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

At KS3 we aim for pupils develop effective collaborative skills as well as developing their performance skills and knowledge of drama. Exploration helps pupils develop a sense of empathy and understanding of the world around them. Whole class performance projects drive standards of performance upwards and give the pupils experience of working as actors in a theatre company and performing in a professional manner in front of high stakes audiences. Drama is taught as a discreet subject at KS3, however some of the topics covered link to the English curriculum to support pupils with their understanding, especially in analytical skills and Shakespeare.

The KS4 curriculum has both vocational and academic options and aims to develop skills and knowledge of drama, as well as a love of theatre through visits. Pupils analyse, explore and perform texts as well as developing creative devising skills, responding to set stimuli/briefs, vocal and movement skills and critical thinking through written analysis. Inclusivity is supported by the option to complete units through the technical theatre route. At GCSE pupils study key theatre practitioners and styles so they are able to apply the conventions of these to their own devising process. Pupils also analyse and evaluate professional theatre performance and explore the process of an actor/director involved in the rehearsal process.

Our extra-curricular provision allows pupil leadership, positive relationships, arts awards as well as full access to the facilities and the experience of showcasing live performance with professional standard technical support. Older pupils develop leadership and directorial skills and there are opportunities for pupils to learn roles in technical support and stage management. This leads to projects such as whole school productions and The Inspire Festival. Creative projects build a sense of responsibility, resilience, and a sense of success and achievement.