

KS3 Curriculum Intent:

In Years 7-9, students learn to express themselves in a safe environment. Teaching and learning at this stage is focussed on enabling students to build and develop a wide range of life skills alongside theatre skills: confidence, creativity, self-expression, empathy, team work and communication skills to name a few! Students will explore drama looking at social themes and issues, key extracts from texts, refining their skills and preparing them for the future. They will be also introduced to historical, social and cultural aspects of theatre, a wide range of drama techniques and performance styles that they can build on for KS4 and 5. Lessons are designed to offer all students a positive environment of trust and respect where every student has an equal opportunity to participate, succeed and grow.

Drama Year 7 Curriculum:

There are four key processes in Drama at Key Stage Three: Create and develop, understand and explore, analyse and evaluate, rehearse and perform

Project 1 – Devising based on literary texts

- Create and develop characters through role-play
- Understand and explore issues and themes that arise from the texts
- Research and utilise the work of a variety of theatre practitioners
- Understand how to create still-images within work
- Experiment with a variety of strategies, techniques and elements
- Develop an original and piece of devised theatre, using the practitioners as an influence
- Present a final performance in a small group based on one or more of the stimuli texts

Project – Exploring and performing from a play text

- To develop knowledge and understanding of a full length play text
- To understand how to apply drama medium and elements to creating a characterisation
- To take inspiration for actors, directors and designers in interpreting the text
- Develop understanding of a range of staging techniques
- Present an performance of a key extract from the play (monologue, duologue or groups piece)

Project 3 – Live Performance

- Evaluate a piece of live or recorded theatre
- Research the work of theatre practitioners RSC
- Understand how to rehearse a scene from the play
- Develop idea's for costume, props, set and lighting
- Experiment with a range of performance techniques form the production
- Rehearse and perform a final piece, reflecting new knowledge

Key Objectives

Although the key objectives remain the same for each project, the plays and practitioners change, as do the personal responses evident in student's work

The student can:

- use a variety of strategies respond to a range of texts and explore issues and ideas
- rehearse and develop a range of practical skills
- maintain focus and control throughout a performance
- be able to make links between drama tasks and apply new learning to own work
- evaluate and analyse how a performance affects an audience
- discuss the work of theatre practitioners and relate it to their own work
- reflect on their practical work and their learning verbally and in writing

Key Performance Standards for Year 7 Drama

Each statement is linked to one or more of the main skill areas for KS3 Drama as listed above

1. Produce imaginative still- images that convey character, relationship and status
2. Explore and experiment with ideas, themes/issues and techniques
3. Take risks and learn from mistakes
4. Make, reflect and evaluate efficiently
5. Make informed choices about drama strategies, medium and elements
6. Engage with a range of texts from different times, places and cultures and using them to inform their creating and performing

7. Understand the role of theatre makers in a range of cultures, times and contexts
8. Explore the effectiveness of their work and the work of others
9. Develop their own views and express reasoned judgments
10. Develop the skills required to convey character to an audience