Overview

Our vision

We believe that all students benefit from engaging in Drama based work. Drama enhances a student's spiritual, moral, cultural and social development and nurtures the acquisition of knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life.

Our Philosophy and Approach

Drama helps to make sense of the world. Students experience this through the creation of imagined characters, some drawn from literature, some from popular culture and some entirely devised. Students of Drama explore the relationships and events that they encounter. Through engagement in Drama, students apply their creativity, empathic skills and draw upon their own personal experiences.

Working in pairs, trios and larger groups essentially contributes to a student's personal and interpersonal development, their resilience, focus and creativity is exercised and over time they develop the collaborative skills so necessary for later life.

Their increasing knowledge and understanding of how the practical elements of Drama work together enables students effectively to shape, express and share their ideas, feelings and responses to a variety of stimuli.

Students are all taught by fully qualified and experienced subject specialists in two fully equipped dedicated studio spaces. Lighting and sound resources complement the textual explorations giving students the opportunities to present their work in a professional and polished manner encouraging a sense of pride in their work and creative achievements.

Key Stage 3

Through stimuli which vary from Poetry, Film, Novels, Images, Situations, TV we aim to work on six to eight-week units of work, in which we will follow the recognised process of Making, Performing and Responding. During these lessons we will explore the application of a wide variety of recognised Drama forms. Assessment will be a combination of immediate feedback from peers and teachers with the focus firmly on clear and direct development of skills and understanding by means of performance, plenary discussions and analysis.

KO Drama Year 7 The Box, Mime and movement

KO Drama Year 7 Ashley's World

KO Drama Year 7 Melodrama

KO Drama Year 7 The Disappearance

KO Drama Year 8 Soap Opera

KO Drama Year 8 The Identification

KO Year 9 Drama Blood Brothers 1

KO Year 9 Drama Blood Brothers 2

Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4 we currently study the Pearson GCSE course, split into 3 Components,

During the course students will be asked to explore a variety of Text and Issue based Drama projects and Practitioners. A range of texts are used from classic period plays to 21st century contemporary theatre practice. Students will also experience Live Theatre as a means of review and inspiration

Component 1 is a devising unit – students work in groups of 3-6 in size to develop an original piece of drama from a stimulus

Component 2 is a script-based performance with a focus on students' vocal and physical characterisation skills. Students choose to present performance work consisting of monologue, duologue or group piece to a visiting examiner

Component 3 is a written exam exploring the roles of Actor, Director and Designer Students will study a set text (currently DNA by Dennis Kelly) and answer a variety of questions regarding the artistic and creative choices they would make in production. They also answer questions on a Live Theatre production they have seen.

DNA knowledge organiser c3

Key Stage 5

At Key Stage 5 we further our study of Drama and Theatre with an emphasis on industry practice and developing skills for work in performance fields. We offer the Pearson BTEC Extended Certificate in Performing Arts, following the Musical Theatre Pathway. This 4 Unit course is equivalent to 1 A Level and the two years are a balanced mixture of skills development, analysis of existing work, practical exploration of Musical Theatre repertoire and industry protocols. Practical study culminates in a practical performance of original devised material to an invited audience.

Extra-Curricular

In conjunction with other Creative Subjects we aim to stage a full-scale musical / play production bi-annually. Students have the opportunity to be involved in singing, acting, dancing, musical performance or technical roles. This is an ideal opportunity to make new friends across the school who share your passion for performance!