



Year 8

Department of Drama

OVERVIEW

Skills Developed

Throughout Year 8, students are encouraged to experiment with a range of practical ideas in order to access play texts and other given stimulus, they learn further skills in devising drama as well as establishing characters from a script. Students are expected to take a greater level of ownership for their work and create extended pieces of performance. Negotiation and evaluation skills are built upon from the Year 7 programme of study. The issue-based projects in particular challenge students to consider their own views and opinions and re-evaluate their thoughts in light of their practical explorations.

Topics covered

Autumn Term

- Status: 'I'm a Celeb' – a devising project that studies characterisation
- Stand Up Comedy – the art of comic timing and mime through script exploration

Spring Term

- Storytelling – the art of storytelling through the creation of Radio Plays.
- Verbatim drama – a documentary style of theatre used to explore issues and events.

Summer Term

- Curious Incident of the Dog In The Night-time – study of a scripted piece of drama based on the well-loved novel of the same name.
- Scripted Performances: Using techniques from the world renowned Frantic Assembly Theatre Company students prepare and perform a section from the script.

How we assess your daughter's progress

Students will undertake a performing and creating assessment for each topic studied. Once a term pupils will be given a written assessment which will link to their performing and creating assessment or to the script they have studied.

The written assessments will require students to analyse the application of their own skills, focusing on intention and impact. When studying a play text they will be required to answer how they would either perform or direct a specific extract in order to obtain the desired impact and link this back into previously learnt theory.

The practical assessments will be assessed in two ways. Firstly, they will be marked on their creating; this focuses on how they communicate in their group, implement key theory into their performances and the rehearsal techniques they use. Secondly, they will be assessed on their performing. This will be on how they use their voice, body language, facial expression and character interaction on stage.

At the end of each topic, a colour band will be allocated, based on the average of both of these assessments.

How we support and develop your daughter

Pupils are encouraged to use *Frog* to access resources.

How you can help your daughter

Regular visits to the theatre will be an invaluable asset to developing your daughter's awareness of live performance. Providing help with homework tasks and performance preparation will also be a welcome support. You may also wish to look at your daughter's assessment sheets in her exercise book to follow her progress.

07/24