



Matravers School Drama

Performing Arts at Matravers

The Performing Arts make a highly valued contribution to the curriculum and learning experience of students at Matravers, a legacy of the school's former Arts College specialist school status. Drama, alongside Dance and Music enjoys bespoke curriculum time throughout Key Stage 3 and options in KS4 and the Sixth Form are popular with a number of our students. At Matravers, it is recognised that the Performing Arts play a unique and valued role in developing creativity and other transferable skills for all students, in addition to the specialist skills within each subject. The impact of the Performing Arts extends beyond the curriculum through the offer of high quality extra-curricular opportunities including an annual school production (a real highlight of the school calendar), partnerships with national companies, theatre visits and a range of 'in-house' clubs, companies and ensembles.

The Department

The Drama Department currently has one permanent full time teacher, plus a further part time practitioner. Both are specialists and offer a range of extra-curricular activities. The school is looking to appoint an enthusiastic and well-qualified Teacher of Drama who will make a significant contribution to the department during the next academic year. The successful candidate will be well supported with subject specialist expertise, a welcoming and supportive Performing Arts team and comprehensive CPD provision.

The Drama Department is well resourced and has access to: a wide range of texts, suitable across the key stages; three studio-workshops in a modern building; well-resourced props and costume store; access to free-standing lights and sound system; the main school theatre for performances, complete with stage, lighting rig, technical booth and raked seating; and a qualified technician.

Curricular Provision

The current Drama curriculum is varied and dynamic, offering students opportunities to experiment with drama skills across a range of genres. The challenge embedded within the schemes of work is progressive, preparing the students for high order thinking and demanding courses further into their drama studies. At Key Stage 3 students follow a varied programme of study including a range of play scripts, adaptation, melodrama, silent movies, drama skills, Shakespeare and thematic work.

At Key Stage 4 students follow the Pearson BTEC Tech Award Specification

At Key Stage 5 students follow the AQA A Level Drama specification.

The Level 3 BTEC Performing Arts course is also taught at Key Stage 5, with colleagues from Drama contributing to this alongside Dance and Music.

At Matravers, we constantly review the curriculum offer to ensure that it is well-matched to the students' abilities, enabling them to successfully develop high quality subject specific and transferable skills as well as exam success.

Extra-Curricular Provision

The Drama department is proud to offer a range of extra-curricular opportunities. Matravers has built a reputable tradition of staging highly successful whole school productions annually, which unite the performing arts and design subjects to create a spectacle of creativity and performance. Most recently, in January 2020, the students superbly brought to the Matravers stage '*Sister Act*', with four sell out performances and a waiting list for tickets. Over the last couple of years, the Drama department has also been involved with the National Theatre Connections project, providing students with a further opportunity to perform both at school and in a professional venue, at The Egg Theatre in Bath. In addition to these larger-scale projects, the Drama department provide and contribute to a range of other extra-curricular opportunities including drama clubs, theatre visits and the annual Performing Arts Celebration Evening.