Drama Department

An Introduction to the Department

The Drama department consists of two part-time staff delivering Drama to all year groups across two Key Stages. In addition, there is a specialist technician to support teaching staff and students.

Teaching

KS3

All students study Drama throughout each year of Key Stage 3. Year 7, 8 and 9 all receive one 60-minute lesson a week. Each year, the students study SoW covering script work, devising, core acting skills, and specific design skills. The Key Stage 3 course has been carefully designed to support student progress towards the demands of GCSE Drama, exploring a breadth of genre and skills and encouraging the developing of essential transferable skills.

KS4

At Key Stage 4, Drama is a popular option subject, we currently follow the AQA exam board syllabus. In addition to performing, students can opt to follow a design pathway – costume, lighting and sound or set all being popular. All option subjects are delivered in five 60 minute periods per fortnight. Set texts are chosen to suit each cohort and current Year groups study ‘ A Taste of Honey’ by Shelagh Delaney.

Each year, in addition to performances linked to examination work, the school delivers a number of performance opportunities to students in all year groups. In recent years students have participated in both the Coram Shakespeare Schools Festival and the National Theatre Connections Festival as well as school performances of ‘Bugsy Malone’, ‘We Will Rock You’, ‘Charlie and The Chocolate Factory’ and ‘Alice’. Productions can be performed in the main school hall, which can be reconfigured to suit a range of performance spaces or in the Drama studio.

Learning Outside the Classroom – Enrichment Activities

There are a wide range of enrichment opportunities on offer in Drama, providing huge sources of inspiration. The Head of Drama is responsible for ensuring that there is a broad range of theatre trips made available to students across all year groups. Weekly after-school activities are also available across the department, including KS3 clubs, exam booster classes and the opportunity to take part in a variety of productions.

The department is fortunate to benefit from two specialist rooms – a drama studio and the school hall, both of which are fully equipped with lighting and sound facilities. There is a good selection of costumes and props which students can use in performances and an up-to-date library of contemporary plays.