

KS3 Drama Learning Journey

Drama Department @ Gartree High School

We study drama at Key Stage 3 for many reasons and believe that it is an important part of our pupils' learning journey and curriculum here at Gartree. In our Drama Department we focus on the whole person, bodies and minds being integrated, learning social skills that mobilise and help integration, self-exploration and creativity, problem solving and expression.

As students re-entered our classrooms after the pandemic (many of which had long stints of home learning and have now become more comfortable learning from behind a screen) drama classes have once again been filled with everything from iambic pentameter to theatre sports, devising, performing and reflecting. With that comes evidence of drama's powerful role in developing our young peoples' skills for future careers, even when they might be outside of the arts.

During our Key Stage 3 drama lesson we focus on assessment using the 4 Cs of drama: **Confidence, Collaboration, Creativity and Concentration.**

Year 7

In Year 7 students focus on one scheme of work every half term, each project focuses on different styles, knowledge, curriculum links and skills.

Our Schemes of work are: An introduction to Explorative Strategies, Mediums and Elements, Darkwood Manor and Horror, Soap Opera and Realism, Melodrama and Musical Theatre/Pantomime, Bugsy Malone and Script Reading, Improvisation, Romeo and Juliet and Tragedy/Shakespeare. *Please do see the learning overviews for more detail.*

Year 8

In Year 8 students focus on one scheme of work every half term, each project focuses on different styles, knowledge, curriculum links and skills.

Our schemes of work are: Explorative Strategies, Mediums and Elements, The Seven Stages of Man, Narration and Shakespeare. World Theatre Speed Tour: Greek Theatre, Kabuki Theatre, Melodrama, Trestle Mask Theatre and Commedia dell 'Arte. Lost and Found, Lord of The Flies, Evacuation, Surrealism, Symbolism and Physical Theatre. Black Out by National Theatre for their Theatre of Debate, Exploring Stimuli, Explorative Strategies in Action, Inspiration is Everywhere, Subtext, Subplot and Morals and Fairy Tales. *Please do see the learning overviews for more detail.*

Year 9

In Year 9 students focus on one scheme of work every half term, each project focuses on different styles, knowledge, curriculum links and skills.

Our schemes of work are: Introduction to 'Moral Dilemmas', Teenage Problems, Silent Film, Film Production, Melodrama, and Movie Business, Plot and Characterisation, Harry Potter, Physical Theatre, The Tempest by William Shakespeare, Comedy and 'Teechers' by John Godber, 'Comedy of Errors' by William Shakespeare, Epic Theatre and Naturalism, Persecution, 'Kindertransport' by Diane Samuels'. *Please do see the learning overviews for more detail.*

The benefits of drama as a teaching method are multiple: drama can reach students who are not reached through traditional methods, it engages students who are not engaged through traditional methods, it connects students to themselves and others, it transforms the traditional learning environment, and challenges students who are already considered successful under traditional paradigms. Through drama and role-playing, students have the opportunity to step out of their comfort zones and explore different roles and perspectives. This helps them build confidence in expressing themselves, develop public speaking skills, and overcome stage fright.

All schemes of work are designed with clear scaffolding, progression and a spiral curriculum in preparation for our students to study further at **KS4 GCSE Drama** also.

There are many **extracurricular activities** also for all KS3 students to enjoy such as: First Act (drama club), Triple Theatre (dance club), Cheer Tree (cheer leading), a yearly school play, a yearly school musical and much more!



