

Drama

In Key Stage 3, students enjoy one Drama lesson per week in a well-equipped drama studio. This is not a National Curriculum subject, so students benefit from the freedom to vary the lessons, according to the strengths and interests of each class.

From the beginning, we develop social skills, communication and confidence, these being the foundation for further work exploring themes and issues of a widely varied nature. In Years 8 and 9, students experiment with dramatic techniques, such as physical theatre and chorus work, extending their range of dramatic tools. By the end of the Key Stage, students are encouraged to bring together all of their skills to make longer pieces of drama with costumes, props, lighting and sound.

The current GCSE course is split between practical work and a written exam. Students will be writing material, as well as performing pre-existing plays. The examination is a mixture of interpretation and opinion on Theatre.

Drama activities take place outside of lesson time, for instance in clubs or 'pop-up theatre'. Recent school productions have included 'Les Misérables', 'Black Comedy', 'Lady Windermere's Fan', 'Macbeth', 'Little Shop of Horrors' and 'Goodbye Cruel World'.

We have also introduced the 'Parmiter's Fringe', which showcases student work to the entire school.