

Curriculum Intent Statement for Drama

Intent

Drama at George Mitchell School is designed to develop student's capacity to formulate and communicate ideas and feelings.

Drama is an expressive, motivational and challenging subject that helps build student character.

Implementation

Primary Phase

Drama is not taught as an explicit subject in the Primary phase. However, English and wider curriculum lessons throughout the EYFS, KS1 and KS2 incorporate a strong focus on spoken language, and the use of role play to enhance children's understanding of the curriculum.

KS3

Key Stage 3 follows the National Curriculum and is taught in mixed ability groups over 2 hours per fortnight.

Year 7

Year 7 introduces basic performance skills such as narrative, characterisation and structure. Students learn techniques such as physical theatre and mime. They study drama from different periods in history and different cultures for example ancient Greek theatre and Commedia Dell Arte. Students are introduced to script and some basic rehearsal techniques.

Year 8

Year 8 builds on the work explored in year 7. Students explore issues through the medium of drama and are introduced to a range of new explorative strategies and study movement, masks and melodrama. Students are introduced to Elizabethan theatre and Shakespeare through the play Romeo and Juliet. They also study and dramatise the poem Beowulf.

Year 9

Students look at a range of contemporary plays such as The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night time and Our Day Out. They begin to study a wide range of theatrical styles and mediums such as Theatre of the Absurd, Realism and Epic theatre. They study a range of practitioners from different cultures and periods in history such as Harold Pinter, Samuel Beckett, Constantin Stanislavski and Bertolt Brecht.

KS4

KS4 follows the BTEC TECH Level 2 Award specification and is taught in mixed ability groups over 6 hours per fortnight.

Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts

During Component 1, students will:

- **explore** performance styles, creative intentions and purpose
- **investigate** how practitioners create and influence what's performed
- **discover** performance roles, skills, techniques and processes.

Component 2: Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts

During Component 2, students will:

- **take part** in drama workshops, classes and rehearsals
- **gain** physical, interpretative, vocal and rehearsal skills
- **apply** these skills in performance
- **reflect** on your progress, performance and how your skills could improve

Component 3: Performing to a Brief

To achieve this aim, students will:

- use the brief and previous learnings to come up with ideas for a performance
- build on drama skills in classes, workshops and rehearsals
- review the rehearsal process using an ideas and skills log
- perform a piece to their chosen audience
- reflect on their performance in an evaluation report

You will be assessed for each unit and can gain a Pass, Merit or Distinction

You can progress to A Levels or a level 3 Performing Arts Course at college.

Where could Drama take you next?

Studying drama could lead to careers in the performing arts, media, business, law, advertising, sales, hospitality and tourism – and much more!