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| * **What we are learning**: The topic or focus for the half term.
* **Key knowledge & skills**: What students should understand and be able to do.
* **How we assess learning**: knowledge checks, practical tasks, written responses and formal assessments.
* **Key words to know**: Vocabulary students will learn and use.
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**Curriculum Overview: Drama**

**Year group 8**

**What your child will learn each half term**

This overview shows the key topics, skills, and knowledge your child will be learning in **Drama** in **Year 8.** It helps families understand what’s being taught, how it builds on previous learning, and how you can support your child at home.

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| Half term | What we are learning | Key knowledge | Key skills | How we will assess learning in this unit | Homework | Key vocabulary for this unit |
| HT 1  | Devising  | Devising from a stimulus.Practical workshops to introduce and reincorporate a range of performing skills and techniques. Application of technique to create final performance. | Thought Tracking, Group Narration, Choral speech,Use of freeze frame.Group devising and research.Team skills – developing a group performance piece. | Ongoing practical assessment in lesson.Peer / teacher feedback.Rehearsal and refinement of devised piece from stimulus. | Research tasks.Script development. | DevisingRefinement RehearsalChorus Freeze framePhysicality |
| HT 2 | Splendid Style | Exploration of practitioner style through performance based workshops and rehearsal.Exploration of archetypes and multi role performance.Exploration of style through study of ‘Medea’ in performance. | Multi-role acting, mixing narration, chorus and character.Physical motifs.Actor created sound effects.Creating archetypal characters in performance. Script reading and analysis. | Peer / teacher feedback in workshop sessions.Group performances of script work in practitioner style.Pieces created from Splendid text – ‘Medea’ - and utilising techniques learned over the unit. | Research into practitioner.Line learning for assessed performance. | EnsembleMulti-roleFourth wallArchetypesMotifUnisonCannonEcho |
| HT 3 | Verbatim Theatre – ‘Who Cares?’ | Introduction of text. Study of professional performance.Exploration of theme – ‘What is a young carer?’Read throughs and script / character analysis.Workshop lessons on key scenes / key characters. | Application ofrehearsal, team and performance skills.Focus on targeted application of multi-role acting, mixing narration, chorus and character, use of Verbatim script technique for desired effect. | Self, peer and whole group evaluation of ongoing and final performance work and development of technique over the unit using subject specific vocabulary and terminology.Assessed performance of scripted group pieces from set text ‘Who Cares?’ | Group rehearsals and line learning for end of unit assessed performance. | Verbatim theatreSynchronicityEnsembleMulti-roleFourth wallArchetypesMotifUnisonCannonEcho |
| HT 4 | Verbatim Theatre – Devising – ‘A Year in History’ | Further exploration of Verbatim Theatre and the devising creative process.How to create Verbatim script from source material.Selection and editing of first person accounts and appropriate performance skills to create effective Verbatim Theatre. | Application ofrehearsal, team and performance skills.Research and scripting / editing skills.Focus on targeted application of multi-role acting, mixing narration, chorus and character, use of Verbatim script technique for desired effect. | Self, peer and whole group evaluation of ongoing and final performance work and development of technique over the unit using subject specific vocabulary and terminology.Assessed performance of devised group pieces based on ‘A Year in History’ | Research / source material gathering.Line Learning for assessed end of unit performance. | Verbatim theatreSynchronicityEnsembleMulti-roleFourth wallArchetypesMotifUnisonCannonEchoEditing |
| HT 5 | Epic Theatre – Blood Brothers | Exploration of Epic Theatre using the Willy Russell play, Blood Brothers.Exploration of key scenes and characters.Exploration of style and genre – Epic theatre techniques crossing over with musical theatre.Exploration of key themes within the play – Nature / Nurture, superstitions, fate. | Script analysis and selection.Application ofrehearsal, team and performance skills.Focus on targeted application of Epic theatre techniques and acting, mixing narration, archetypal characters, use of these skills for desired dramatic effect. | Self, peer and whole group evaluation of ongoing and final performance work and development of technique over the unit using subject specific vocabulary and terminology.Assessed performance of scripted group pieces from set text ‘Blood Brothers’ | Research into set text (Blood Brothers), characters, style, genre and context.Line Learning for assessed end of unit performance. | Epic TheatreFourth WallNarratorArchetypeStereotypeFateEpisodic structure |
| HT 6 | Performance analysis – The Odyssey | Exploration of theatre performance analysis and evaluation linked to the Splendid play ‘The Odyssey’.What makes an effective performance?How do actor’s use their performance skills to create effect?Recognition of stylistic techniques. | Analysis skills linked to chosen performance.Breaking down a scene to recognise effective use of technique.Linking stagecraft to story and the effectiveness of style. | Ongoing feedback and questioning from teacher.End of unit written assessment focused on analysis of performance and evaluation of success. | Research tasks linked to Splendid Productions. | AnalysisEvaluationStagecraftRevision of prior vocabulary to use in this context. |