

Subject: Drama

Curriculum Intent

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The Riverside Performing Arts curriculum involves both practical and academic approaches which students use to discover different styles, processes, and interrelationships in theatre. Students develop interpersonal skills via exploration of drama skills and techniques that expose all students to creativity, interpretation, performance, and the industry as a whole.

The curriculum leads students through the different stages of their 5-year education, designed to build on prior knowledge and skills, challenging and stretching all students. Through a clear progression of selected texts, stimuli, and transferable skills, students are guided to become theatre creators who produce, reflect, and develop autonomously.

At KS3, students explore different processes of creating drama and drama devices. The KS4 BTEC curriculum draws upon all prior knowledge and skills to allow for a more practical application that capitalises on performance and the creative industry.

Performing Arts has a rich, essential wider curriculum which includes after-school clubs, the annual school musical, a talent show, and borough competitions. These give all students the opportunity to pursue the arts regardless of their options. Trips and workshops are organised to ensure all KS3 students observe professional theatre annually. In KS4, students take part in Arts Week, link with professional industry partners, and work on cross-curricular projects. As a department, we strive to ensure every student is fully equipped with fundamental life skills. Our students are effective communicators, demonstrate high levels of creativity, and are successful collaborators, producing confident, well-rounded, and autonomous young adults ready for their next steps in their creative education or other chosen pathways.

Year 7 Topics

- **Half Term 1:** FUEL (Facial expression, Use of voice, Eye contact, Levels) - Introduction to basic drama skills.
- **Half Term 2:** BAGS (Body language, Audience, Gestures, Space) - Continuing to introduce basic drama skills.
- **Half Term 3:** Twisted Tales - Devising from a stimulus, using well-known fairy tales and adapting them creatively.
- **Half Term 4:** Detective and Accused -Scripted drama.
- **Half Term 5:** Sam's Story - Creating alternative endings.
- **Half Term 6:** Murder Mystery -Working with pre-existing characters.

Year 8 Topics

- **Half Term 1:** Physical Skills
- **Half Term 2:** Vocal Skills
- **Half Term 3:** Historical Reenactment
- **Half Term 4:** Theatre in Education -Drama with an educational message.
- **Half Term 5:** Blood Brothers -Exploring a scripted play.
- **Half Term 6:** Where Is Alex? - Exploring bullying and emotions.

Year 9 Topics

- **Half Term 1:** *Noughts and Crosses* - Introduction to working and from a script (links to Component 1).
- **Half Term 2:** Choices and consequences - Investigating crime cases involving teenagers, exploring the emotional impact, understanding wrong and right choices, and recreating stories using drama techniques.
- **Half Term 3:** Theatre Roles
- **Half Term 4:** Devised Performance - Creating original drama.
- **Half Term 5:** Styles and Practitioners -Exploring theatrical styles.
- **Half Term 6:** Exploring choices and consequences.

Year 10 Topics (Pearson BTEC Performing Arts)

- **Half Term 1:** Introduction to component 2 -Analysing and interpreting scripts.
- **Half Term 2:** Introduction to component 3 -Devising from a stimulus using specific styles.
- **Half Term 3 and 4:** Component 2 - Scripted acting exam (including two coursework elements).
- **Half Terms 5 and 6: Component 1** – Analysing *Noughts and Crosses*.

Year 11 Topics (Pearson BTEC Performing Arts)

- **Half Term 1:** Component 3 - Devising from a stimulus (Mock).
- **Half Term 2:** Component 3 -Devising from a stimulus (Mock continued).
- **Half Term 3 and 4 :** Component 3 - Working and creating theatre from a brief (Real Component 3).

[Pearson BTEC Performing Arts Specification - Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Performing Arts 2022](#)