

Drama at Yarm Primary

At Yarm Primary, our intent is to provide children with a broad and balanced curriculum, which builds on their needs and prepares them for the future. We use a project-based approach to provide an engaging and purposeful context for learning where pupils are encouraged to apply the skills and knowledge in a range of subjects. We place emphasis on mastering key skills to provide a solid foundation for lifelong learning.

Within the national Curriculum:

Pupils should be taught:

All pupils should be enabled to participate in and gain knowledge, skills and understanding associated with the artistic practice of drama. Pupils should be able to adopt, create and sustain a range of roles, responding appropriately to others in role. They should have opportunities to improvise, devise and script drama for one another and a range of audiences, as well as to rehearse, refine, share and respond thoughtfully to drama and theatre performances.

Key Stage 2

Pupils should be taught:

should become more familiar with and confident in using language in a greater variety of situations, for a variety of audiences and purposes, including through drama, formal presentations and debate.

In Early Years the framework states:

Expressive arts and design involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology. We provide opportunities for children to express themselves and experiment through art in a formal and informal way, as identified in the curriculum maps for Early Years.

Children are supported in developing their skills through discrete topic links or through role-play to aid understanding themes and characters to support both reading and writing.

Feedback is important, and technology allows children to review and constructively comment on each other's performances. These are often recorded with ipads, and children are able to film their own groups to reflect back on.

Typically, large-scale performances at Christmas and in Summer give children the opportunities to develop and build their confidence and skills in expression and public speaking.

The creativity suite is available for drama and music as a specialist room, where lessons are delivered by the school's music teacher.

Currently some themes explored in topics through Drama include: whose works are used to develop skills include: Exploring the afterlife in Egyptian mythology, engaging in role-play debates about survival during the sinking of the Titanic, and giving children the chance to create nursery rhymes to perform to the Early Years children. Children also write and perform their own weather reports to be filmed and reviewed, along with making their TV adverts to advertise something they have created. In upper school links made with parliament provide a context for debate and exploration of democracy.

To secure the offer we feel our children deserve and better reflect what is captured in curriculum maps, we will work on the following as short term priorities:

- Promote the use of role-play to raise status within the curriculum, particularly through the CLPE Power of Reading.
- Promote visits to the theatre and access to theatre companies.

