



# Marshalls Park Academy - Curriculum Overview



Subject: Drama

Year Group: 8

Subject Leader: JFU (Maternity)

Academic Year: 2023 - 24

## **AIMS:**

The Department aims to give all pupils an understanding of and enthusiasm for Drama as both a Learning Medium and as an Art Form.

## **DRAMA AS A LEARNING MEDIUM:**

- Pupils are encouraged to use Role Play, Improvisation, Group Work, Discussion and a range of other Drama Strategies to enable them to explore a variety of Personal, Social and Cultural Issues. Their drama work is aimed at fostering a greater understanding of themselves and the world they live in.
- Listening and Discussion Skills, Sensitivity, Empathy, Respect for each others' ideas, Voicing Opinions and Group Skills are all developed.

## **DRAMA AS AN ART FORM:**

- Pupils are encouraged to gain an understanding of the skills, methods and techniques needed to create effective drama and theatre. Structuring ideas, performance skills and production skills are practised.
- Self-confidence, imagination, creativity, performance and communication skills, discipline, organisation and teamwork skills are developed.
- All the work of the Department is aimed at providing pupils with opportunities to participate in high quality, rich and varied drama experiences both inside and outside the classroom.
- Students get the opportunity to study a variety of scripts, texts and poems throughout their Drama Education at Marshalls Park.

Students in **Year 7** and **8** have **two lessons** of Drama per fortnight.



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TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3
<p style="text-align: center;">KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS</p> <p><b>Physical Theatre</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils use text extracts from a range of sources to create strong ensemble work with a focus on Abstract, rather than Naturalism.</li> <li>• Within this topic, pupils are also able to explore the theological principles of different practitioners such as the work of Steven Berkoff; which will help develop knowledge when choosing their own style of performance at GCSE. Students also look at the work of Franz Kafka (The Trial &amp; The Metamorphosis).</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS</p> <p><b>‘The Woman in Black’ by Stephen Malltratt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the script from the highly successful West End theatre production, students will explore the use of performance skills and production elements.</li> <li>• Students will also be introduced to the ideas of practitioner Bertolt Brecht and develop knowledge on performing a script from a different time period (Victorian).</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS</p> <p><b>Evacuees</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils involve themselves in workshops which explore the experiences and feelings of children Evacuated during WWII.</li> <li>• Pupils develop key Drama skills writing and perform a soliloquy based around the character of an evacuee they have created. (Linked to History)</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;">KEY ASSESSMENTS</p> <p>Assessed Task 1 – Students use Abstract techniques to dramatise a poem called ‘The Nightmare’.</p> <p>Assessed Task 2 – Students use Abstract techniques to the opening paragraphs of The Metamorphosis by Kafka.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">KEY ASSESSMENTS</p> <p>Assessed Task 3 – Students create a piece of drama attempting to tell the story of ‘The Woman in Black’ using drama strategies effectively and to create the correct atmosphere.</p> <p>Assessed Task 4 – Students create a performance using the script from the opening scene of the play.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">KEY ASSESSMENTS</p> <p>Assessed Task 5- Students complete a written exam in which they reflect on some of the practical work that they have completed this term.</p> <p>Assessed Task 6 – Students create and perform a soliloquy based on a child packing to be evacuated.</p>

Extended reading suggestions and links to external resources:

Students are encouraged to read a wide range of fiction books throughout the year in order to gain an understanding of perspectives outside of their frame of reference. Parents are encouraged to provide opportunities for their children to see live theatre where possible.