



# Drama Curriculum

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## Overview

Drama and Theatre Studies is a practical, creative, artistic subject involving the whole person intellectually, physically, emotionally, creatively, aesthetically and spiritually.

We pride ourselves on delivering a well rounded and exciting curriculum. Students explore a range of themes and topics from the evacuation of WW2 to the events of 9/11. We give students the essential life skills that they need to fulfil their future potential. Many of our students have gone on to train at esteemed Drama schools such as Central School of Speech and Drama, Rose Bruford, Guildhall and Bristol Old Vic.

The curriculum is supported by a wide variety of extra-curricular projects including national festival productions, whole school shows and clubs.

## Key Stage 3

Drama is taught in years 7, 8 and 9. Topics cover various stimuli from social issues, plays and stories to theatre history. Drama is explored collaboratively in a dynamic and fun way, students learn skills in leadership, team work, presentation, problem solving, acting and directing.

- Year 7 topics include: Mime/ Movement; Evacuation; Creating Tension; Anti-Bullying; Greek Theatre; The Museum.
- Year 8 topics include: Shakespeare; Pantomime; Alice in Wonderland; Let Him Have It; Reportage of 9/11; Comedy.
- Year 9 topics include: Status; Puppets; Titanic; Stanislavsky; Murder Mystery; Green Screen Adverts.

## Key Stage 4

GCSE Drama is about creating, performing and evaluating. Students play many parts in different imaginary situations. They have the opportunity to devise their work as well as look at plays written by other people. Students do written work as well as practical work. The course follows EDEXCEL exam board syllabus and involves **practical and theoretical coursework (60%)** and a **practical exam (40%)**.

### Unit 1: Practical and theoretical coursework: Theme (30%)

Use drama to express feelings and ideas about a range of issues by creating moments using improvisation.

### Unit 2: Practical and theoretical coursework: Play (30%)

Explore a play to see how a playwright expresses their ideas about a theme or topic and explore ways of making the play work on stage.

### Unit 3: Practical exam (40%)

Be involved in the performance of a play from an existing script or complete a design project.



## **Key Stage 5**

Drama is also offered at AS and A2 level. We teach EDEXCEL AS/A2 in Drama and Theatre Studies. The units covered offer students the opportunity to develop their performing and directing skills and learn from professionals by writing critical reviews. The full A-level course has four units in total. Alternatively, students, at the moment can choose to follow the course for just one year and gain an AS qualification made up of two units.

**Unit 1:** Coursework (practical and theory) exploring two plays and writing a theatre review

**Unit 2:** Performance exam: Group piece and monologue/duologue

**Unit 3:** Devising a performance

**Unit 4:** Written exam analysing a Greek play and a Shakespeare play

**Subject Leader:** Ms S McDonald

**Department Website:** <http://drama.stwilfrids.com/>