

Drama Department Curriculum Statement

The Drama department at Wykham Park provides students with the key qualities it takes to be human. We want to provide students with the skills needed to express our feelings in a positive and reflective manner whilst allowing students to develop an analytical understanding of the needs of others. The curriculum focuses upon Drama being a subject that inspires and explores cultural identity and heritage, allows students to take risks in a safe environment, think critically and work collaboratively to explore the arts and its place within society. The environment within the department is fully inclusive allowing students to thrive in a practical setting which builds their confidence, creativity, curiosity and resilience, thus allowing them to further their own sense of identity and belonging in order to be prepared for an ever changing society. Students will be taught by outstanding experienced teachers and will be provided with a variety of opportunities to work with industry professionals across the key stages and throughout their careers within the Drama department. There is a rich and varied extra-curricular offer with opportunities for students to gain experience as professional actors, performers, directors and technicians. A yearly main school production provides the opportunity for the whole school to be involved with all aspects of creating and performing. Cross curricular links between Art, DT and Drama have been strengthened due to the collaborative nature of our extra-curricular provision. Students are treated equally within the department and there is a strong sense of collaboration across all year groups. We wish to provide and enhance opportunities for all students in terms of their cultural capital, this is done through trips & visits, exploring positive communication skills and working with industry professionals.

KS3

At KS3 students experience the basics of drama including building character, collaboration and creative storytelling. This is accomplished through a series of practical lessons with a focus on students becoming directors and performers. Students build upon their reflective analytical skills through live marking and formalised feedback every lesson.

Year 7 Serious fun & From Page to Stage - Arabian Nights.

Students explore the fundamental ideas behind being successful in the Drama classroom whilst exploring the magical stories of the Arabian nights. Students will explore the scripts and the skills needed to create a performance as actor, director and technician.

We explore what makes up different types of Drama Including Adverts, Horror and Westerns. Students have the chance to explore short scripts and even get a chance to write, direct and perform their own.

Year 8 Serious fun remixed & From Page to Stage- Grimm Tales

We re-visit Serious Fun with a re-mixed version where students learn the key idea behind trust we then move on to study a unit called From Page to Stage - Grimm Tales where we will explore their use of atmosphere and tension through the skills of movement and body language, ending the topic having recreated a key scene from one of Phillip Pullman's Grimm Tales.

Year 9 Back to basics- Preparation for KS4 Drama & From Page to Stage Harry Potter & The Cursed Child

Students start with learning all the basic skills and devices used to create interesting and thought-provoking pieces of theatre. We study techniques used by professional theatre-makers such as Frantic Assembly and DV8 Physical Theatre; leading to a final performance of the techniques they have learnt.

KS4 BTEC TECHNICAL AWARD IN PERFORMING ARTS- ACTING PATHWAY

This course allows students to study the key principles behind acting, giving them the opportunity to develop knowledge and technical skills in a practical learning environment. We will examine the roles and responsibilities of different performance artists and practitioners such as actor, director, writer and designer; as well as the different approaches and styles used, such as comedy, physical theatre and naturalism. Students will develop key skills, such as being able to respond to and interpret different ideas; and will experience first-hand the ways in which performance artists work through the development of ideas, rehearsal and then performance. The qualification is the same size and level as a GCSE and is aimed at everyone who wants to find out more about performing arts. It is a practical introduction to life and work in the performing arts industry, which will give you the opportunity to develop performing arts skills and techniques, and to analyse and evaluate your skills both independently and within a group.