



Intent

"The Drama Department's vision is to provide the opportunities for all students to explore theatre and acting in the classroom and in a wider setting. From developing confidence to learning about style and technique, all students are given the opportunity to express themselves in a creative way whilst developing key transferable skills"

The purpose of the Drama curriculum is to:

- Enable all students to develop their confidence and acting skills through engaging schemes of work, recognising that drama develops many transferable skills.
- Encourage and prepare students for lifelong appreciation of theatre and performance, both in and out of school, including preparation for further study if appropriate.

Implementation

Drama is an exciting and liberating subject, in its own right, as well as being a tool to help students develop key skills such as self-confidence, communication skills, listening skills, co-operation, concentration and self-control.

For Years 7, 8 and 9, schemes of work are diverse and innovating by encompassing Drama skills and techniques, issue-based drama, design projects, drama genres, physical theatre and stimulus work.

The **Year 7** teaching programme includes Skills and Techniques, Improvisation, Pantomime, Scriptwriting and Storytelling. Our main aim is to make the students feel like they are in a safe environment where they feel able to express their ideas and opinions through practical and written work. They are given ownership of their work by being allowed to explore their imagination within a given context and a focused structure.

In **Year 8** we look more closely at Mask Work, Characterisation and Scripts. This is combined with further work on Drama genres, such as Physical Theatre and Greek Theatre. In this way, we are able to develop students' practical ability as well as their theoretical knowledge of the subject.

The work covered in Years 7 and 8 prepares students for **Year 9**; where they are given the opportunity to create their own devised Drama pieces, as well as interpret a range of different scripts. The students are given the opportunity to respond to issues, past and present events, poems and newspaper articles and are encouraged to encompass the skills, techniques and performance styles learnt in years 7 and 8 to create original pieces of theatre.

In **Years 10 and 11**, pupils study the OCR GCSE in Drama (where their knowledge of interpreting scripts and devising drama proves invaluable), Students leave William Hulme's Grammar school as rounded dramatists who have the ability to analyse, create, perform, evaluate and review Drama to a high standard.

Aside from the curriculum, we offer a Lower School Drama Club (Years 7 – 9), where students will work towards public and assembly performances. This gives pupils the opportunity to develop their interest in the subject and work with pupils from other year groups. We also put on our annual school show which is open to all year groups. This provides all pupils the opportunity to create and perform in a way which develops acting skills and friendships.

Drama gives students the opportunity to learn skills which prepare them for work, leisure and, most importantly, for life.

Impact

We aim to ensure that we give students a breadth of knowledge and skills as well as a lifelong appreciation of different styles of theatre. We wish for students to understand the transferable qualities that drama and performance can offer, whether performing, creating or directing, and hope to support the wider personal development of a student in terms of their happy and successful journey through school. Equip students for their next stages of learning and future destinations.