**Expressive Arts Options Drama**

**Why Study Drama? Benefits of studying Drama**

* Drama really stimulates ***CREATIVITY IN PROBLEM SOLVING****..........****HONESTLY!***
* It ***CHALLENGES YOUR PERCEPTIONS*** about your world and yourselves.
* Dramatic exploration provides you with ***AN OUTLET FOR EMOTIONS, THOUGHTS AND DREAMS*** that you might not otherwise have the means to express......very good for mental health.
* **You** will, if only for a few moments, ***BECOME ANOTHER*** *person and* ***EXPLORE*** *a new role*
* You *will* ***TRY OUT AND EXPLORE*** *with various personal choices, solutions to very real problems-problems from your own life, or problems faced by characters in literature or historical figures.*
* This will take place in a ***SAFE ENVIRONMENT***, where actions and consequences can be examined, discussed, and in a very real sense ***EXPERIENCED*** without the dangers and pitfalls that such experimentation would obviously lead to in the "real" world.

**What are Drama Skills?**

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| **CREATIVITY** | use imagination and empathy, develop emotional intelligence, think of new ideas, make creative choices |
| **COMMUNICATION** | verbal and nonverbal, improve language skills, vocal projection, articulation, show compassion and tolerance. |
| **CONTRIBUTING**  | offer ideas, enjoy being part of the team |
| **CONCENTRATION** | focus the mind and body, improves memory- it is a muscle too! |
| **CO-OPERATION** | listen, discuss, negotiate, plan, set targets |
| **CONFIDENCE** | learn to have faith in yourself, trust your ideas and abilities |

**What units of work will we cover / study in Drama in S3?**

Unit 1- Disasters
Unit 2- Movement - WW1 / Thriller/ Gangs

Unit 3 - Documentary Drama- exploring an issue through Drama using improvisation, reconstructions, monologues.

Unit 4 - Script work- choice of scripts e.g Square Go, Blood Brothers, Smalltown, Tally's Blood, Blackwatch. You will work with a partner or in a small group. You will learn lines and portray a character and present this as your S3 Acting piece.

Unit 5 Production Skills- lighting, Sound, Costume, Props, Hair and Make -up, Set design and Staging
Unit 6- Community project- Performance and workshop aimed at local primaries or other identified group. The class will work together to create and devise this drama. You will have a choice of an acting role or a drama production skills role.

**Opportunities within the Drama Department.**

We will have the opportunity to go to the theatre and see performances. You will also be encouraged to join the Drama Club. The Drama Club usually presents a Christmas Production. There are often other performing opportunities throughout the session. You could take on an acting part. You may also want to write plays or short sketches. You might choose to take on a Production role as part of the backstage crew specialising in lighting, sound, props, costume, hair and make-up and creating the set. Backstage crew also move furniture and equipment during performances. Another option is to help with Front Of House, that means designing posters, programmes, tickets and then selling tickets and showing people to their seats at the times of the actual performances. There are lots of ways to get involved.

**Parental Support Guide**

Your support in the following areas would be greatly appreciated

* going over lines when learning a script
* checking that your child is keeping up to date with work in class and any home learning
* helping to source costume and props
* encouraging your child to get involved in the wider school community e.g. drama club
* encouraging your child to take the opportunity of visiting the theatre for trips.

**Career Pathways**

 Drama allows you to develop hugely valuable skills which you will continue to use throughout your life, in and out of work. Here is a run through of the skills you will develop and perfect throughout your Drama studies.

* No subject teaches you how to work well in a team quite like Drama. In Drama you are nearly always working with a group of people of varying sizes. You will work with lazy people, disorganised people, bossy people and you may well be one of these characters yourself. Drama will allow you to develop your patience, ability to compromise and communication skills.
* You will learn discipline. Preparing to perform means working towards deadlines, remembering what you did in rehearsal, coping with nerves and adapting when things don’t quite go to plan. You are part of a project and you work through a process and create a product.
* In Drama you will be asked to improvise on many occasions. This allows you to think on your feet, develop your initiative and will encourage you to be more proactive. It may not feel like it at the time, but this will hold you in good stead when it comes to taking the initiative and adapting in your personal life and in the workplace.
* Drama stimulates you to be constantly creative. Drama will force you to regularly come up with exciting, functional and convincing ideas, to a deadline and this ability will stay with you.
* Empathy is an important life skill. When you act in Drama you put yourself in to another person’s shoes and try to identify with them and their situation. This will really test your empathy, especially when portraying a character who is experiencing things you cannot personally relate to. This is an invaluable skill that will open your mind, improve the way you interact with people and is especially useful if you are considering a career in caring, teaching or social work.
* Analysing Drama productions allows you to develop your critical thinking skills. This is useful for most jobs and is great if you are planning on taking English Literature, Media Studies or Film Studies at degree level.
* You will gain in confidence. This is an important one because Drama gives you the opportunity to push yourself to perform. You will be able to grow in confidence, develop your performance skills and overcome the fear of making mistakes in a fun, creative and supportive environment.

 Studying Drama will help you become a confident, open minded person who isn’t afraid to create, perform or do a bit of public speaking.

Possible Career choices for Drama students

* [Actor](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/actor)
* [Broadcast presenter](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/broadcast-presenter)- radio and TV
* [Community arts worker](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/community-arts-worker)
* Director-film/ tv/radio/video
* [Dramatherapist](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/dramatherapist)
* Drama teacher/ Primary teacher/ Nursery teacher/ Lecturer
* Events Co Ordinator
* Film and television
* Front of House jobs in theatre
* Games Design
* Lawyer
* Media
* Politician
* Producer, broadcasting/film/video
* [Runner, broadcasting/film/video](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/runner-broadcasting-film-video)
* Social work
* [Theatre director](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/theatre-director)
* Theatre production work e.g. lighting, sound, costume, hair and make- up, props, set, special effects
* [Theatre stage manager](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/theatre-stage-manager)
* Working in Media/ film/ video