

## Drama

### Intent

At KS3 Drama introduces students to an interesting range of topics and styles to encourage students to explore the subject through the eyes of an actor, director and designer. In designing our curriculum, we have aimed to provide different ways of exploring drama through devising, scripted and technical aspects of the subject which provide an excellent framework for students wishing to continue studying the subject into KS4. Careful choices have been made about the issues and ideas explored through lessons so that they reflect what is happening in the world around us and allow all students to become critical audience members and engaging performers.

At the heart of the KS4 course, students will be taught how to create exciting new ways of devising drama, explore a range of different plays and the opportunity to perform in front of a live audience and visiting examiner. There will be opportunities to look at how directors, actors and designers use the different dramatic elements within their performances to communicate ideas to an audience. Within the written aspect of the course, there will be a chance to review live theatre and study a modern play about teenage peer pressure. Our curriculum encourages students to deal with social and emotional topics through the medium of drama and dramatic skills in a sensitive and mature way.

Students are provided with a rich and diverse curriculum which allows them to explore not only the practical side of drama but also the written aspect, focusing on the analysis and evaluation of their own work and the work of others. Students benefit from the excellent facilities on offer here at St Bede's with a custom drama studio, dance studio and both outdoor and indoor performance spaces. Students learn through exploration and the development and refinement of performance skills as well as through analysis and evaluation of design and directing elements.

### Implementation

Students in year 7 and 8 have one Drama lesson per fortnight. Students opting to study Drama in year 9 have 3 lesson per fortnight and those who choose to study Drama at GCSE have 5 lessons per fortnight. At KS5 Students have 6 classes per fortnight which are split between practical and theory lessons.

The high quality teaching is evident through our drama specialists' enthusiasm and passion for the subject. Wherever possible we

encourage students to take advantage of the rich extracurricular activities on offer within the drama department.

Assessment:

The drama skills which are introduced at KS3, develop at KS4 and are refined and consolidated at KS5. The curriculum throughout all key stages allows students to explore Drama from the perspective of an actor, designer and director. Evaluation and analysis of theatre is introduced at KS3 and provides an excellent framework for students opting to continue their theatre studies into KS4 and KS5. Within the sixth form the body of work which students produce become more substantial and challenging, from the set texts studied to the practitioners and stimuli they explore. This rich exposure to high quality and cutting edge work provides students with a firm basis on which to embark on further study of Drama at university level.

### Impact

We aim to prepare all our drama students fully for the world of work and further education by giving them a rich and diverse education. Within the arts we have the unique opportunity of being able to allow our learners to explore the world around them in a creative way which in turn develops learners into young adults who are highly socially aware with the confidence and communication skills to succeed.

Any job that involves communicating with confidence and working as a team would benefit from studying GCSE Drama especially within the Performing Arts and Media industries. Studying A Level Drama would be an ideal course to lead into further study at university in performance or backstage work such as stage management, lighting or set design. The written element of the course would prepare students well for a university level standard of fluency and understanding and the confidence gained through performance will be hugely beneficial when presenting both in further education and in future careers (in any subject area).