

Drama DNA

The Creative and Performing Arts department aims for **inclusivity**: the idea that every pupil has access to a range of creative opportunities whatever their background.

Courageous

We encourage bravery and courage daily through the practical exploration of Drama and performance, both in the classroom and in extra-curricular opportunities.

- We encourage pupils to take risks in their learning and step beyond their comfort zone
- We celebrate the range of creative skills that every child can bring to the classroom from contribution to ideas, through to performance on stage
- We offer the opportunity for pupils to work together to develop a passion for process as well as outcome
- We give students the opportunity to create their own performances based on topics that are interesting and relevant to them

Compassionate

We offer a diverse curriculum which allows pupils to explore performance styles from around the world, through creation and evaluation. We aim to develop a compassionate mindset, both when performing and critiquing the work of others.

- We develop transferable skills, which pupils will need throughout school and into adulthood
- We encourage an appreciation of theatre through regular trips to professional performances
- We offer the classroom as a safe space to share ideas, perform in front of others and present and receive feedback

Community

Both inside, and outside of the classroom, pupils are offered the opportunity to join the Drama community through lessons, performances and extra-curricular opportunities. We welcome everyone into our community, as both performers and audience members!

- All pupils, no matter their background or academic ability, are offered a range of creative outlets including classroom performance, the whole-school musical, productions and LAMDA lessons
- We take part in community programmes such as The Old Vic Schools' Club programme and Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank
- We welcome the community into the school, both to share their experience and knowledge with us, and to appreciate our shows and performances

Empowering Excellence

Drama offers the opportunity for everyone to be excellent: whether it be as a performer, designer or stage manager. In lessons, pupils develop independence and responsibility through the ample opportunity given to work in pairs and groups. The year 7 Drama enrichment, the whole-school musical and Year 7 and 8 play offers pupils the opportunity to develop excellence in Drama before beginning curriculum lessons.

- We develop student leadership through embedding both trust and responsibility in group practical work
- We share excellence through regular performances in class, allowing pupils to showcase their skill and continuously learn from each other
- We celebrate the idea of taking ownership of work, no two performances will ever be the same and this is the beauty of Drama!
- We develop the ability to evaluate performances in class, offering the opportunity to receive feedback from peers in addition to the teacher
- We appreciate the excellence of professional companies, recognising the successful elements of performance and this can be re-created in the school environment