



Curriculum Newsletter

DRAMA

Drama provides students with the opportunity to build a range of transferable and life skills, from effective communication and team work to problem solving and decision making. Students enjoy Drama because it allows them to be whoever they want to be and explore and understand the experiences of others. It gives them a voice and an opportunity to share how they view the world. The study of Drama engages, inspires and challenges students, immersing them in the world of real life and fictional storytelling as an art form and as a way to encourage empathy.

Curriculum intent

Drama at Hermitage Academy intends to lead students on a journey of creativity and self-expression by exploring core knowledge and practical skills.

Students will explore approaches to Drama influenced by practitioners from a range of cultural backgrounds, with an appreciation of the importance and relevance of theatre in society.

Students are encouraged to develop their skills as an actor, director and designer through the study of published plays and the creation of their own, original work. As well as developing subject specific skills such as vocal and physical expression, Drama provides students with the opportunity to build a range of transferable skills, from effective communication and leadership to problem solving and decision making.

Key Stage 3 Curriculum

Throughout Key Stage 3 the study of drama is divided into three areas: stage craft, page to stage and creating theatre.

Year 7:

Introducing Stagecraft

Learn how to create different characters and a portray a range of different emotions. Explore the beginnings of performing on stage to an audience.

Introducing Page to Stage

Learn how to use vocal and physical skills including tone, body language and facial expressions to perform from a chosen script.

Introducing Creating Theatre

Explore how to create your own performance generating ideas from a range of stimuli including images, lyrics and quotes.

Year 8:

Developing Stagecraft

Discover the techniques required when performing a range of emotions using different styles of theatre including naturalistic and non-naturalistic genres.

Developing Page to Stage

Develop your vocal skills through use of tone, pitch and pace as well as physical skills of body language, facial expression and levels to perform a more challenging script

Developing Creating Theatre

Working in groups, create your own performance material using stimulus from current affairs.

Year 9:

Mastering Stagecraft

Following on from the development of presenting emotions, develop a character and adapt performance material to suit a range of stage configurations.

Mastering Page to Stage

Further develop your vocal and physical skills to accurately and fluently demonstrate character meaning to an audience.

Mastering Creating Theatre

Develop performance skills such as hot seating, role reversal, still images and flash backs to generate performance ideas derived from a stimulus.

Key Stage 4 Curriculum

Students will follow the Eduqas GCSE specification for drama.

This will involve units of work in:

Devising Theatre

In this units, students will create and develop ideas to communicate meaning for theatrical performance. They go on to apply theatrical skills to bring their ideas to life on stage and learn how to analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others.

Performing a Text

This unit will see students work in small groups analysing, rehearsing and performing scenes from a published play. This enhances their knowledge and understanding of how professional performers interpret and portray characters

Interpreting Theatre

Students will study live productions and I Love You Mum- I Promise I Won't Die by Mark Wheeller as their set text in order to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed.

Key Stage 5 Curriculum

Students currently study Edexcel BTEC Extended Certificate in Performing Arts. This course is made up of four units of work, taught over two years.

Year 12:

Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners

Unit 2: Developing Skills and Techniques

These units are taught concurrently with students further developing their skills and techniques in

both drama and dance through the in-depth study of professional practitioners such as Paper Birds, Frantic Assembly, Bob Fosse and Lloyd Newson.

Year 13:

Unit 3: Group Performance Workshop

Unit 4: Variety Performance

Students bring together seven years of knowledge, understanding and skills to the devising, rehearsing and performing of live, public performances.

Group Performance Workshop involves devising,

Studying drama can open doors ...

It develops a wide range of transferable and life skills which employers often see as essential such as excellent communication skills, the ability to work as team and think creatively. In addition to careers in the performing arts industry, drama skills have helped our students pursue careers in law, retail management, leisure and tourism, hospitality, events management, teaching and many other jobs that require employees to be able communicate effectively, work as team, think creatively and present themselves to the public with confidence.

rehearsing and performing a new piece of drama in response to a theme set by the exam board. Variety Performance is an opportunity to develop new skills in a genre of their choice.