

Drama



Year 8 Curriculum Map



Year 8 – Autumn Term Silent Film / Pantomime

Prior Learning

Pupils have experience of drama from the previous year. All pupils should be able to speak/act in front of the audience at this stage although some might still struggle with confidence especially straight after the summer holidays.

What will I learn?

Looking at these two genre's pupils will be able to recap and build on their physical and voice skills. Silent film will prepare the pupils to look more closely at their use of body language and a more intense look at the silent film superstars Marcel Marceau and Charlie Chaplin will help guide us to perfect the skills needed. Later on, pupils move onto pantomime where they add the voice skills – this is a genre where exaggeration is key so they will study the stock characters in a pantomime and then add all the sparkle that is needed. Pupils will perform a 3-scene pantomime of Cinderella using costumes.

Next Steps

Pupils will have developed skills in over exaggeration which will help them next term as they tone it down to play more naturalistic characters. The devising skills they have started to learn will help them create interesting performances that will engage the audience.

How will I be assessed?

Two formal assessments will take place, one for each genre. Every lesson pupils will use self/peer and teacher assessment to enable each pupil to grow and improve their performances.

Opportunities for Independent Learning

Watching video clips of Marcel Marceau, Charlie Chaplin and early Laurel and Hardy sketches, will help develop pupils' understanding of silent film. Maybe watch a full silent film and write a short review on it. On YouTube there are several pantomimes that ITV did a number of years ago, which will help you see all the characteristics of a pantomime.

Personal Development and CEIAG

Pupils will develop their ability to work with others who are not their friends. Pupils will develop key skills such as listening, taking turns, suggesting ideas for improvement and watching drama with a critical eye are all transferable and crucial to the development of competent performers. Reading texts fluently will also pupils help develop reading skills and memory skills which are vital to further their education.

Enrichment Opportunities (Cultural Capital)

Extra-curricular clubs are held at lunchtimes and after school throughout the year – check the notice board outside the Drama Studio to look at dates and times etc.
A whole school production will also take place this term so all pupils are free to join that.
Trips will be available during the year to some of the Manchester Theatres which will include tickets and transport. If you are interested in seeing any shows that we don't run as a trip have a look at the Manchester Theatre What's on Guide <https://www.visitmanchester.com/whats-on/events/whats-on-opera-house-palace-theatre> .
It is also worth looking at the [Lowry](https://www.visitmanchester.com/whats-on/events/whats-on-opera-house-palace-theatre) , Home Theatre <https://homemcr.org/whats-on/> and Blackpool Opera House <https://www.wintergardensblackpool.co.uk/whats-on/> .
Pupils are also very fortunate to have lots of lovely theatres local to them so it's always worth having a look to see what's on such as Burnley Mechanics <https://blcgroup.co.uk/locations/burnley-mechanics-theatre/> and Colne Municipal Hall <https://www.themuni.co.uk/>.
And this term its Panto season so try and watch some of the local pantomimes. A good local recommendation is Burnley Pantomime Society who perform at this time every year at Burnley Mechanics [Burnley Mechanics Theatre | Book Tickets Online | Burnley Leisure \(blcgroup.co.uk\)](https://www.visitmanchester.com/whats-on/events/whats-on-opera-house-palace-theatre) .



Year 8 – Spring Term Issue-Based Drama

Prior Learning

Pupils have started the year with two very exaggerated genres, so pupils will tone it down a little to be able to work naturalistically. Pupils will have understanding of the issues they will study due to PSHCE lessons.

What will I learn?

This unit of work will look at important issues that young people may face such as bullying, anxiety, peer pressure and knife crime. Pupils will use drama to help understand these issues more deeply using the power of empathy but also importantly learning key drama knowledge as they go through. Pupils should be able to know and understand how to perform to different stage types eg. in the round, Thrust etc.

Next Steps

This will enhance pupils confidence and performance skills which will enable them to progress to using a script and being able to use physical and voice skills to improve their acting. Pupils will also have a better understanding of how to use the performance space which will allow them to explore different ways of staging a performance.

How will I be assessed?

Every lesson there will be a focus on either peer or self-assessment where pupils will assess the work of others and their own performances. There will be a formal assessment with teacher feedback given towards the end of the term where pupils will look at creating and performing skills.

Opportunities for Independent Learning

As this unit of work is all about pupils age range and what difficulties people might face, research and statistics always helps creating their performance a little easier. The more pupils understand the topic the more they can create a realistic storyline that will engage their audience well.

Personal Development and CEIAG

Pupils will develop their ability to work with others who are not their friends. Pupils will develop key skills such as listening, taking turns, suggesting ideas for improvement and watching drama with a critical eye are all transferable and crucial to the development of competent performers. Reading texts fluently will also pupils help develop reading skills and memory skills which are vital to further their education.

Enrichment Opportunities (Cultural Capital)

Extra-curricular clubs are held at lunchtimes and after school throughout the year – check the notice board outside the Drama Studio to look at dates and times etc.
Musical theatre club will start shortly after the production for pupils with an interest in acting, singing and dancing.
Trips will be available during the year to some of the Manchester Theatres which will include tickets and transport. If you are interested in seeing any shows that we don't run as a trip have a look at the Manchester Theatre What's on Guide <https://www.visitmanchester.com/whats-on/events/whats-on-opera-house-palace-theatre> .
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Year 8 – Summer Term

Exploring Scripts

Prior Learning	Pupils will have explored voice and physical skills so now it is time to put that into practice using someone else's words (dialogue). Good reading skills will help with this too.
What will I learn?	Each week pupils will explore a new script, focusing on a script skill to enable them to be able to perform a script realistically and fluently. Pupils will look at changing subtext and how that can affect the meaning of dialogue. Pupils will also look at Stanislavski's techniques to enable the dialogue to become believable to their audience and how as an actor, pupils will have decisions to make the scenes lift off the page for the audience to understand and enjoy.
Next Steps	This will bring pupils nicely into year 9 where they can bring all the skills they have learnt this year and build on them with more complex themes and learning.
How will I be assessed?	This term pupils will study short skits and extracts from short unpublished plays. Next year this will be developed using a published play and studying the text to enable them to bring the characters to life in their own unique way.
Opportunities for Independent Learning	Pupils will benefit from reading play texts (as well as books) as it will enable them to get used to understanding the stage directions and imagining what and how the playwright intends the actor to deliver their lines.
Personal Development and CEIAG	Pupils will develop their ability to work with others who are not their friends. Pupils will develop key skills such as listening, taking turns, suggesting ideas for improvement and watching drama with a critical eye are all transferable and crucial to the development of competent performers. Reading texts fluently will also pupils help develop reading skills and memory skills which are vital to further their education.
Enrichment Opportunities (Cultural Capital)	Extra-curricular clubs are held at lunchtimes and after school throughout the year – check the notice board outside the Drama Studio to look at dates and times etc. Musical theatre club will take place this term for pupils with an interest in acting, singing and dancing. Trips will be available during the year to some of the Manchester Theatres which will include tickets and transport. If you are interested in seeing any shows that we don't run as a trip have a look at the Manchester Theatre What's on Guide https://www.visitmanchester.com/whats-on/events/whats-on-opera-house-palace-theatre . It is also worth looking at the Lowry , Home Theatre https://homemcr.org/whats-on/ and Blackpool Opera House https://www.wintergardensblackpool.co.uk/whats-on/ . Pupils are also very fortunate to have lots of lovely theatres local to them so it's always worth having a look to see what's on such as Burnley Mechanics https://blcgroup.co.uk/locations/burnley-mechanics-theatre/ and Colne Municipal Hall https://www.themuni.co.uk/ .