

Drama – Year 7	Head of Department: Mrs K Shackell
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Content

The Drama Department seeks to promote and develop drama as an essential part of the child's entitlement to a full and balanced curriculum. Every student has the opportunity to attend one drama class a week during the year in the lower school. The students are introduced to a range of drama techniques and styles of theatre and performance during this time, including improvisation techniques, melodrama, physical theatre and commedia dell'arte. We look at the work of contemporary writers and also explore issues and themes using drama. All students are encouraged to perform their work to others in their class in pairs and in small groups, which helps the students to learn the skills of performance and develop in individual confidence

Assessment

Assessments take place at the end of every scheme of work, outlined as follows:

First Half Term: Baseline Assessment – basic Drama skills applied to both scripted and devised based performances.

Autumn Term: 'Deerhurst Manor' – An introduction to Improvisation and building sustainable and believable characters in the format of Process Drama.

Assessment: On-going throughout the Scheme of Work.

Spring Term: Play Text Exploration.

Assessment: This will take place both during and at the end of the process (Play text to be decided by class teacher) Skills assessed will include:

- I. Students' ability to demonstrate sound knowledge of the Text (the words on the page)
- II. Show commitment, focus and collaborative involvement when completing practical work
- III. Communicate ideas effectively in order to demonstrate an understanding of Character, Plot, Form and Structure

Summer Term: 'The Car Crash' – Learning how to create Devised based Drama through a series of Stimuli and demonstrating the ability to use Naturalistic and Non-Naturalistic techniques.

Assessment: Will be undertaken at the end of the process, performing skills will be assessed, including how the students have used Naturalistic and Non-Naturalistic techniques in their work.

How Parents and Carers can support

Parents and carers should actively encourage their child to participate in Drama at Calthorpe Park as much as possible, including beyond the classroom. We run a popular Drama club during the Autumn Term and begin working on our annual School Production in the Spring Term, ready to perform in July.

Parents and carers should encourage their child to rehearse their work at home; this will develop their confidence and help them understand how to contribute to the creation of Drama. Students may wish to bring costumes and props in from home to improve their practical work.



Occasionally Year 7 students will be asked to complete an evaluation of their own work, or the work of others. A clear structure of what the students need to include will be provided by the classroom teacher, it would be most helpful when checking your child's work that they have fulfilled the requirements and actively used the help provided to them.



Drama – Year 8	Head of Department: Ms C Oram
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Content

The Drama Department seeks to promote and develop drama as an essential part of the child's entitlement to a full and balanced curriculum. Every student has the opportunity to attend one drama class a week during the year in the lower school. The students are introduced to a range of drama techniques and styles of theatre and performance during this time, including improvisation techniques, Melodrama, Physical Theatre and Commedia dell'Arte. We look at the work of contemporary writers and also explore issues and themes using drama. All students are encouraged to perform their work to others in their class in pairs and in small groups, which helps the students to learn the skills of performance and develop in individual confidence.

Assessment

Autumn Term: 'The Evacuees' – Process Drama and Historical Understanding.

Assessment: on-going throughout the Scheme of Work. Written exam may be sat by students during this time, the exam will focus on assessing:

- I. Students' interpretation skills
- II. How Drama can be created from various forms of Stimuli
- III. How the performer uses skills such as Body Language, Facial Expression, Voice, Gesture and Stance to create meaning
- IV. General knowledge regarding the subject

Autumn Term: 'Commedia dell'Arte' – Genre based practical work focusing on this style of comedy originated from Italy in the 1500s.

Assessment: Formal, practical based towards the end of the Scheme of Work.

Spring Term: 'Blood Brothers' – Play Text Study.

Formal Assessment will take place both during and at the end of the process Skills assessed will include:

- V. Students' ability to demonstrate sound knowledge of the Text (the words on the page)
- VI. Show commitment, focus and collaborative involvement when completing practical work
- VII. Communicate ideas effectively in order to demonstrate an understanding of Character, Plot, Form and Structure

Summer Term: 'The Magic Book' – Improvisation and building sustainable and believable characters in the format of Process Drama, building on from skills established in Year 7 and developing knowledge regarding character motivation and how action/reaction can be sustained over a period of time.

Assessment: On-going throughout the Scheme of Work.



How Parents and Carers can support

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Parents and carers should encourage their child to rehearse their work at home; this will develop their confidence and help them understand how to contribute to the creation of Drama. Students may wish to bring costumes and props in from home to improve their practical work. In preparation for practical based assessments students should be encouraged to rehearse their work during their own time, for example, after school or during break/lunchtimes.

Year 8 students will be asked to complete an evaluation of their own work, or the work of others. A clear structure of what the students need to include will be provided by the classroom teacher, it would be most helpful when checking your child's work that they have fulfilled the requirements and actively used the help provided to them. Similarly, Year 8s will need to revise for their written based exams, details regarding the content of the exam will be provided to the student at least one week prior to the exam. Please ensure your child spends between one-two hours revising for the exam.

Visit the Theatre as much as you can, the National Theatre often stream Live Performances to cinemas in our area, making Theatre much more affordable and accessible to our young people.



Drama – Year 9 & 10	Head of Department: Ms C Oram
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Exam Board and Syllabus Code: AQA

Content

Students receive three sessions (a double and a single) of drama in a week, which continue the practice of drama as the students experienced it in Years 7-8. Their understanding of themes and manipulation of text through drama is increasing in sophistication and depth. The subject matter for their drama is chosen to be suitably challenging and to meet their particular stage of life. Students follow the AQA Drama GCSE Syllabus.

Assessment

Modules are structured so that by the end of Year 10 the students will have experienced and been assessed on all the elements of the syllabus, through mock practical explorations and written exams. The Drama Department has a purpose-built Drama Studio which offers the students an exceptional space for the performance and showcase evenings.

The course structure is outlined below

Component 1: Understanding Drama

Written exam: 1 hour and 45 minutes (this will be sat during the Summer of Year 11)

The exam will be marked out of 80

The exam is worth 40% of the GCSE

Component 2: Devising Drama

Practical Performance and Log Book

This component will be marked out of 80

The performance and Log Book is worth 40% of the GCSE

Component 3: Texts in practice

Practical Performance

This component will be marked out of 25

The performance is worth 20% of the GCSE

How Parents and Carers can support

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Parents and carers should encourage their child to rehearse their work at home; this will develop their confidence and help them understand how to contribute to the creation of Drama. Students may wish to bring costumes and props in from home to improve their practical work. In preparation for practical based assessments students should be encouraged to rehearse their work during their own time, for example, after school or during break/lunchtimes. During the Component 3 (Practical exam) preparation period it will be essential that students



attend as many after school rehearsals as possible. Letters home will be issued to parents when this process begins.

Students will have to prepare their notes/drafts for the one written piece of coursework (the logbook in relation to Component 2). Likewise, they will need to prepare and revise for Component 1 (the written exam). Parents and carers should encourage their child to use the help material provided by their teacher and check over their work for correct use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Parents and carers should encourage their child to go to the Theatre as much as they can, the National Theatre often stream Live Performances to cinemas in our area, making Theatre much more affordable and accessible to our young people.



Drama – Year 11	Head of Department: Miss C Oram
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Exam Board and Syllabus code: Edexcel

Content

Students receive three sessions (a double and a single) of drama in a week, which continue the practice of drama as the students experienced it in Years 7-8. Their understanding of themes and manipulation of text through drama is increasing in sophistication and depth. The subject matter for their drama is chosen to be suitably challenging and to meet their particular stage of life. Students follow the Edexcel Drama GCSE Syllabus.

Assessment

Their modules are structured so that by the end of Year 10 the students will have experienced and been assessed on all the elements of the syllabus. Coursework represents 60% of the final mark in Year 11, which is internally assessed by the teacher and externally moderated by the examination board. The final 40% practical examination is externally assessed during a public performance to friends and family. The Drama Department has a purpose-built Drama Studio which offers the students an exceptional space for the performance and showcase evenings.

How Parents and Carers can support

Parents and carers should actively encourage their child to participate in Drama at Calthorpe Park as much as possible, including beyond the classroom. We run a popular Drama club during the Autumn Term and begin working on our annual School Production in the Spring Term, ready to perform in July.

Parents and carers should encourage their child to rehearse their work at home; this will develop their confidence and help them understand how to contribute to the creation of Drama. Students may wish to bring costumes and props in from home to improve their practical work. In preparation for practical based assessments students should be encouraged to rehearse their work during their own time, for example, after school or during break/lunchtimes. During the Unit 3 (exam) preparation period it will be essential that students attend as many after school rehearsals as possible. Letters home will be issued to parents when this process begins, usually at the beginning of the Spring term.

Students will have to prepare their notes/drafts for the three written pieces of work they will have to complete in controlled conditions during lesson time. Parents and carers should encourage their child to use the help material provided by their teacher and check over their work for correct use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Parents and carers should encourage their child to go to the Theatre as much as they can, the National Theatre often stream Live Performances to cinemas in our area, making Theatre much more affordable and accessible to our young people.

