

KS3 Drama Intent:

Through a carefully selected Drama curriculum, we allow students to develop both socially and personally. Students will be given the opportunities to create, perform and respond to not only the topics taught at KS3 but also professional theatre and experiment with technical theatre roles. At Wexham, we want to help dispel the myth that Drama is just acting.

Drama as a subject is essential for developing key skills such as critical thinking, creativity and confidence in spoken language. The curriculum ensures that students are exposed to the local and global cultural landscape, political and socio-political events as well as challenging stereotypes which will help them to play a full and active part of society.

Skills:

The core skills that students will learn and develop throughout KS3 are:

- the ability to perform, direct and consider effective use of design skills
- the ability to analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others
- the ability to understand how performance texts can be interpreted and performed
- the ability to use vocal and physical skills, create character, communicate ideas to an audience
- how to devise a performance
- how to create and communicate effective drama through developing ideas, rehearsing, refining and amending work in progress for performance
- the ability to adapt physical and vocal skills so that they are suitable for a specific theatrical genre

Knowledge:

The core knowledge students will develop is:

- how to use drama skills to impact on an audience
- how to use basic theatrical conventions
- how to show the meaning of a text to an audience
- how to use appropriate vocabulary and subject-specific terminology when analysing and evaluating their own work and that of others

KS4 Drama Intent:

Our GCSE Drama curriculum aims to inspire creativity, build confidence, and develop students' understanding of the world through performance. We offer a broad and inclusive programme that nurtures practical skills, imagination, and critical thinking. Students explore a range of theatrical styles, practitioners, and genres, learning to devise, perform, and evaluate drama. They develop key life skills such as teamwork, communication, and problem-solving, while gaining insight into different perspectives and cultures.

The curriculum encourages independence, resilience, and self-expression, supporting students' personal growth and wellbeing. It also enhances literacy, analytical thinking, and cultural awareness, preparing students for further study and a range of future careers. We aim to foster a lifelong appreciation of theatre, whether as performers, designers, or engaged audience members, ensuring all students leave with a deeper understanding of themselves and the world around them.

Skills:

The core skills students will develop are:

- the ability to recognise and understand the roles and responsibilities of performer, designer and director
- the ability to analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others
- the ability to understand how performance texts can be interpreted and performed
- the ability to realise artistic intentions through the use of vocal and physical skills, the creation of character, the communication of creative intent to an audience and through the understanding of style, genre and theatrical conventions
- the processes by which devised performances are created, developed and refined
- how to create and communicate meaning through research, developing ideas and intentions, rehearsing, refining and amending work in progress for performance
- how to analyse and evaluate theatre including the impact of performers, directors and designers
- how to form critical judgements about live theatre based on their understanding of drama and theatre
- how meaning is communicated and interpreted through the use of voice, physical and non-verbal techniques, the use of space and spatial relationships, the presentation of characters/roles, the relationships between performer and audience, the production elements, characterisation and communication with other performers and/or with the audience - including learning lines, rehearsing and refining work

Knowledge

The core knowledge students will develop is:

- understanding the practices used in twenty-first century theatre-making and how these create impact
- understanding production elements and theatrical conventions

- understanding the role of theatre makers in contemporary practice including performers, directors and designers
- understanding how the meaning of a text might be interpreted and communicated to an audience
- understanding social, historical and/or cultural contexts including the theatre conventions of the period which the text was created and performed
- appropriate vocabulary and subject-specific terminology
- understanding characteristics of dramatic work including genre, structure, character, form, style, and language
- how meaning is communicated and interpreted through performance conventions, use of space and spatial relationships on stage, relationships between performer and audience.