

DRAMA: INTENT

The teaching of Drama at Enfield County School for Girls has two main elements: using Drama as a learning tool and teaching Drama as a discrete, creative performing art. Drama deals with fundamental questions about the use of language, the development of vocal dynamics to deliver language, the meaning of facial expression and body language. The creative development of vocal and physical skills is transferable in everyday life: the ability to communicate to small and large groups of people, to work in groups, to show leadership skills, to deliver language with maximum impact, to be confident in interviews, to structure and present work, to analyse and evaluate concepts and so forth.

In Drama students can learn about the world around them and, through improvisation and text work, explore different historical time periods, a range of characters and situations, different attitudes and moods, experience a range of cultural explorations and develop empathy. Drama is a useful learning tool to explore the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of education. As a discrete subject, Drama is concerned with the development of performing, directing and designing and fostering an understanding and appreciation of the aesthetics of those three elements. The KS3 course provides a foundation for the KS4 GCSE course and each year group has set learning objectives. Some basic intentions for all are:

- To foster an appreciation of drama and theatre as art forms.
- To understand and develop the skills of the Performer, the Director and the Designer.
- To develop a student's creative expression and communication through drama skills such as role play, still image, mime, choral speaking, movement, cross cutting and so forth.
- For students to develop a performing ethos and aesthetic. Drama is not about producing trained professional actors rather it is about students using drama techniques in a confident manner.
- To explore a range of texts and provide context.
- To develop improvisation and devising skills.
- To understand the relationship between process / rehearsal and performance.
- To provide the opportunity to respond to a range of stimulus material including photographs, pictures, music, poetry, newspaper articles and so forth.
- To use drama to enable students to explore ideas and to develop their knowledge, understanding and interpretation of the world in which they live and how people operate within it.
- To encourage students to initiate and develop ideas, to negotiate with others, and to take responsibility for their own learning in drama with the support of their peers and their teacher.
- To provide an opportunity for the students to examine issues and subjects from perspectives other than that of their own, encouraging tolerance and appreciation of other ways of life, other cultures, previous lives and times, other generations and so forth.
- To develop a student's ability to reflect, analyse and evaluate on their experience in drama both in and out of role and in their writing.
- To develop social skills and the ability to work in groups creatively.
- All students are encouraged to take an active part in lessons and to achieve their potential.