

Year 7

Performing Arts - Drama

Course outline:

These programmes of study are a brief outline of the topics undertaken in Drama during Key Stage 3. Students are introduced to various drama skills including:

- characterisation
- role play
- voice projection
- mime
- thought tracking
- spontaneous and planned improvisation
- freeze frame
- character development
- hotseating

In exploring and learning these skills students will cover a range of issue-based drama including social issues such as bullying and family issues.

Year 7 students will also explore poetry and develop their literacy skills through the medium of performance.

Performing Arts - Music

Course outline:

Using the three disciplines of listening, composing and performing, pupils work on projects based around the key elements of music; rhythm, pitch, timbre, dynamics, texture, harmony and structure.

The 3 modules for this year are:

- 1) Rhythm – with projects on Rap, African music and Minimalism.
- 2) Pitch – with projects on Minimalism and Japanese music.
- 3) Timbre – projects on Cartoon music.

Assessment:

Each project culminates in a performance piece or composition which is recorded and marked according to National Curriculum criteria. Pupils also write their own commentary/evaluation at the end of each topic. During the course of each topic listening exercises and homeworks are given. These are marked using the school system of A to E.

Homework:

Homework is set when it is needed to support the work done in class on a project. The frequency of written homework depends upon the nature of the project.

Additional Information:

Students who learn instruments are encouraged to use them in both composition and performance tasks. There are opportunities for students to show their work to a wider audience in assemblies and in concerts. Extra-curricular activities encourage pupils to exploit their talents further.

Year 8

Performing Arts - Drama

Course outline:

These programmes of study are a brief outline of the topics undertaken in Drama during Key Stage 3. Students are introduced to various drama skills including:

- Characterisation
- role play
- voice projection
- mime
- thought tracking
- spontaneous and planned improvisation
- freeze frame
- character development
- hotseating
- text analysis

In exploring and learning these skills students will cover a range of issue-based drama including social issues such as homelessness.

Students will be challenged by scripted work and the preparation of monologues.

Performing Arts - Music

Course outline:

Using the three disciplines of listening, composing and performing, pupils work on projects based around the key elements of music; rhythm, pitch, timbre, dynamics, texture, harmony and structure.

The three modules studied are

- 1) Scales – with projects on Medieval Music, Major and Minor.
- 2) Accompaniment styles – projects on Blues and Indian Music.
- 3) Timbre – projects on the Influence of Art on Music.

Assessment:

Each project culminates in a performance piece or composition which is recorded and marked according to National Curriculum criteria. Pupils also write their own commentary/evaluation at the end of each topic. During the course of each topic listening exercises and homeworks are given. These are marked using the school system of A to E.

Homework:

Homework is set when it is needed to support the work done in class on a project. The frequency of written homework depends upon the nature of the project.

Additional Information:

Students who learn instruments are encouraged to use them in both composition and performance tasks. There are opportunities for students to show their work to a wider audience in assemblies and in concerts. Extra-curricular activities encourage pupils to exploit their talents further.

Year 9

Performing Arts - Drama

Course outline:

These programmes of study are a brief outline of the topics undertaken in Drama during Key Stage 3. Students are introduced to various drama skills including:

- Characterisation
- role play
- use of voice
- mime
- thought tracking
- role reversal
- spontaneous and planned improvisation
- freeze frame
- character development
- hot seating
- flashback technique
- physical theatre

In exploring and learning these skills students will cover a range of drama skills and techniques. They will also tackle scripted pieces of work in order to develop their ability to perform and sustain a role.

Performing Arts - Music

Course outline:

Using the three disciplines of listening, composing and performing, pupils work on projects based around the key elements of music; rhythm, pitch, timbre, dynamics, texture, harmony and structure.

The last topic is "Communication" and pupils are expected to draw upon all the topics studied throughout the lower school in order to produce a final performance or composition.

Assessment:

Each project culminates in a performance piece or composition which is recorded and marked according to National Curriculum criteria. Pupils also write their own commentary/evaluation at the end of each topic. During the course of each topic listening exercises and homeworks are given. These are marked using the school system of A to E.

Homework:

Homework is set when it is needed to support the work done in class on a project. The frequency of written homework depends upon the nature of the project.

Additional Information:

Students who learn instruments are encouraged to use them in both composition and performance tasks. There are opportunities for students to show their work to a wider audience in assemblies and in concerts. Extra-curricular activities encourage pupils to exploit their talents further.

Year 10

Performing Arts - Drama G.C.S.E.

The course has two main components. 60% Practical Work which is assessed in the following way – 10% Written coursework - 20% Preparation - 30% Final performance - 40% Written Exam

In Year 10 students are involved in:

- A study of the history of theatre, including Greek and Medieval theatre traditions.
- A devised piece of drama based on the theme of Oppression.
- A Theatre-in-Education project which is taken into primary schools.
- Introduction and development of drama skills.
- The study of a set text.
- Various theatre visits.

Homework:

Each lesson is evaluated in a Diary. This is to be written in after every lesson. Students will also evaluate their performances which will form part of their coursework.

Performing Arts - Music

Course outline: Using the disciplines of listening, performing and composing students study four areas:

- 1) Contrast and change in Western Classical Music (1600-1900)
- 2) Trends in Modern Classical Music (1900 onwards)
- 3) The popular song (Blues, Reggae, Dance Re-mix and Musicals)
- 4) World Music (Indian, African, Gamelan and cross-cultural music)

Assessment:

- 2 compositions (one of which the student must be able to perform) each carry 15% - assessed internally as coursework.
- Solo performance – Ensemble performance. These each carry 15% and are assessed internally as coursework.
- Written examination (40%) where questions are asked on extracts of recorded music.

Homework:

- Students must regularly practise on their main instrument. This should happen every day.
- Composition coursework should be done each week.
- Various written assignments for the history/theory part of the course. One each week.

Additional Information: Students are expected to join in at least one group activity in school. This can be one organised by the department or may be something arranged by the students themselves.