

Expressive Arts – Drama

Overview

"Tell me and I will forget. Show me and I will remember. Involve me and I will understand." Old Chinese proverb

Drama is an important subject on the curriculum as it provides learners with an opportunity to learn through kinaesthetic learning. Pupils develop a wide range of personal skills including team work, communication, focus, concentration, confidence and trust. It is our central aim to provide pupils with opportunities to experience a skill based approach to learning and to create an atmosphere where pupils wish to learn.

KS3 Drama is a compulsory subject for all pupils in KS3 and has recently reflected some exciting changes to include working within an Expressive Arts faculty with Music and Art. Each Expressive Arts subjects follows specific time periods in different year groups. Specific time periods in KS3 Drama include 16th Century (Commedia dell' Arte, Pantomimes, St Richard Gwyn as a Welsh stimulus and William Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Nights Dream'); and Contemporary Theatre scripts including 'Teechers' (John Godber), 'Face' (Benjamin Zephaniah) and 'Too Much Punch for Judy' (Mark Wheeller). Using given stimuli, pupils develop skills in practical exploration, creation and response.

KS4 Drama now becomes an option choice in Key Stage 4 with pupils following the WJEC examination course. The course outline is as follows:

Unit 1 – Devising Theatre (40%)

Pupils are required to devise a piece of original theatre in response to a stimulus, using either the techniques of an influential theatre practitioner or the characteristics of a genre of drama, and provide a portfolio of supporting evidence.

Unit 2 – Performing Theatre (20%)

Learners are required to participate in a performance based on the study of two significant extracts from a text – scripted work.

Unit 3 – Interpreting Theatre (40%) - written exam

Section A – response to a set text (currently '*Romeo and Juliet*' by William Shakespeare)

Section B – response to live theatre

KS5 At Key Stage 5, pupils follow the WJEC Drama and Theatre Studies AS/A2 specification in our partnership sixth form with Flint High School.

