

Holy Family Catholic School

Curriculum Overview Year 8 – Drama



	Curriculum Content	Suggested Reading or Extension Activities
Autumn Term (Sept-Dec)	Stand Up! A scheme of work that explores people that have taken a stand against discrimination .	Research historical facts: - Segregation and Rosa Parks - Apartheid and Nelson Mandela Develop the skills of: - Written and Verbal Analysis - Written and Verbal Evaluation - Line learning - Rehearsal - Voice - physicality - characterisation - communication - Devising Research the following drama techniques: - Split-Stage - Cross-Cutting - Mark the Moment - Hot-Seating - Improvisation Read extracts from Rosa Parks biography, historical newspaper articles/sources, and the play script 'The Island'.
Spring Term (Jan-March)	The Classics An exploration of Shakespeare, focusing on arguably his most famous play - Romeo and Juliet. Students will learn how to approach and interpret the Shakespearean text and develop and devise performance work around the themes and issues of the play explored. In addition students will explore the origins of Comedy and Tragedy using the medium of drama. This scheme also helps develop students' use of a wide range of explorative strategies.	Read extracts from the plays 'Romeo and Juliet' by William Shakespeare and texts from the genres of Comedy and Tragedy. Research on: - the cultural, social, historical, political context of the play - Characters - plot - themes Develop the skills of: - Written and Verbal Analysis - Written and Verbal Evaluation - Line learning

		- Rehearsal - Voice - physicality - characterisation - communication - Devising - Scripted Performance Research the origins of Comedy and Tragedy. Research the following drama techniques/explorative strategies: - Split-Stage - Cross-Cutting - Improvisation - Hot-Seating - Marking the Moment Read a range of text/stimuli, including the poem “Waving Not Drowning” by Stevie Smith.
Summer Term (April-July)	Physical Theatre and Commedia Dell’ arte An exploration of Physical Theatre and Commedia Dell’arte. This scheme helps develop students' use of a wide range of physical strategies.	Research the following: - Contemporary Physical Theatre Companies (Frantic Assembly and DV8) - Commedia Dell’arte Develop the skills of: - Written and Verbal Analysis - Written and Verbal Evaluation - Line learning - Rehearsal - Voice - physicality - characterisation - communication - Devising - Scripted Performance Read a range of text/stimuli, including the play text ‘Alota-Chocolata’.

Examples of Home Learning Tasks	KS3 Drama is predominantly focused on developing practical performance skills, therefore home learning will be largely practical in nature, focusing on: reading (Play-texts, newspaper articles, theatre reviews and other printed stimuli), line learning, monologue development/script development, watching performances online and rehearsal and refinement of script work. However, there will be some written research tasks set for homelearning, as well as written analysis/evaluation questions, to help develop students' written skills and help prepare them for the written element at KS4, should they continue with the subject.
Assessment Tasks, Methods & Frequency	Students will complete a performance at the end of each unit of work which will be focused on specific Drama techniques and skills. Students will also

	complete a written self evaluation or peer evaluation, based on their final assessed performance. Students are provided with a Drama Learning Booklet for each unit undertaken, which will include: The big Idea, Big Question/s, Skills foci, Technique foci, assessment criteria/foci for the unit, lesson by lesson learning objectives and resources, a key words and vocabulary glossary, evaluation sentence starters (to be used within lesson time) and a written assessment template.
Equipment that Students Need	• Learning Booklet (which will mostly be retained by the teacher) • Pens (black and Green)

Parent / Carers can help their child by:	• Joining their child's Drama Google Classroom • Taking them to watch live theatre performances frequently • Encouraging their child to join an extra-curricular drama club
Useful Websites	http://youtube.com http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/drama/
Extra-Curricular Activities & Career Opportunities	• KS3 Drama Club • Bi-annual Holy Family Whole School Production • Opportunities to take part in workshops provided by professional actors/directors/playwrights • Opportunities to attend theatre trips

Who Can I Contact?	Head of Drama	Ms Hampshire-Mannion: ms.hampshire@holyfamilycatholicschool.co.uk
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