

Year 8 Drama

Year 8 builds on the basic skills and knowledge from Year 7. The students also have the opportunity to critically analyse a performance, in terms of how theatre is created, introducing staging, analysing how actors create convincing characters and identify key moments. Practitioners are also introduced, these are the people and theatre companies who create theatre styles and how these can be used to explore themes or communicate messages to an audience.

Methods of deepening and securing knowledge:	
Spaced practice	Throughout the year skills from Year 7 are revisited and further developed.
Retrieval practice	Retrieval practice is used throughout the year, as students will revisit previously taught aspects and apply them to the new stimulus.
Elaboration	Through the nature of the practical exploration students constantly elaborate on new skills and concepts.
Concrete examples	Examples are used throughout the year, either as a starting point for ideas or as good practice.

	Autumn term 1	Autumn term 2	Spring term 1	Spring term 2	Summer term 1	Summer term 2
Topic(s)	Devising from stimulus - Using the 7/7 London Bombings as a stimulus, students explore creating powerful drama with a message	Frantic assembly - Physical techniques such chair duets, stage fighting and how to use them to create an emotional response from the audience	Gizmo - Reading and exploring the script – developing and analysing how convincing characters are created and picking out key moments		Live response - Watching a performance and exploring how people and theatre companies create performance, explore themes and communicate messages to an audience	Comedy - Exploring comedy styles through physical theatre to build performances
Assessment	- Practical performance and end-of-topic theory test	- Practical performance and end-of-topic theory test	- Practical performance and end-of-topic theory test		- Written live response	- Practical performance and end-of-topic theory test

Independent learning:

Language for Learning independent learning is central to Drama. This is used as an opportunity to explore concepts in a wider context. Independent learning may also be research or script development based tasks that aid the practical performance.