

WELCOME TO THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Reepham High School holds Arts Mark Silver, which is evidence of the quality of its arts provision for students as part of a broad and balanced curriculum. Drama enables students to develop creative intelligence, confidence, and social skills and to understand the themes and issues in both plays and real life. We offer a number of extra-curricular opportunities for interested students such as: Drama Club; theatre trips; workshops and impact days.

The teacher in charge of the department is Phillip Smedley, an experienced teacher who also manages the Media department, and the subject is taught by a strong team of enthusiastic and dedicated English teachers.

KEY STAGE THREE (Years 7, 8 and 9)

Years 7 and 8 are taught in mixed ability, organised through their Tutor Groups. Year 7 have one lesson per week and Year 8 have one lesson per fortnight, alternating with PSHE. In addition, some Year 8 students will have extra Drama lessons to replace a modern foreign language and these alternate with Literacy lessons.

Year 9 students are set according to ability and have one lesson per fortnight with the same Drama/Literacy arrangement for some students as with Year 8.

The Key Stage 3 scheme of work is based on the structure of the new GCSE course (taught from September 2017) and pupils are graded accordingly. Each year is broken into the 6 key disciplines of theatrical drama, taught through exciting and engaging stimulus material, from silent movies to plays such as *Mama Yankee*.

KEY STAGE FOUR (Years 10 and 11)

Students are taught in a mixed ability group in five lessons spread over a fortnight.

Currently, students follow the OCR course for GCSE Drama. This GCSE is composed of practical, performance and written evaluation with an external performed assessment at the end. This GCSE is undergoing changes that we will be putting into effect from September 2017. Information about the key differences to the current syllabus will be published in due course.

ACCOMODATION AND RESOURCES

The Drama department facilities consist of two studios and the use of the hall. A range of design resources are available including portable stage lights, recording equipment, rostra and screens.

Both studios are equipped with computers, projectors and the internet.

The department is well-resourced with a range of play texts and stimulus materials such as costumes, masks and props.

We work closely with organisations such as The Garage, Norwich Playhouse, Theatre Royal Norwich and Triple Threat stage school.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Drama Club takes place in the main hall on Tuesdays from 15.30 to 17.00 and is open to all students. It is run by one of our teachers and a local, fully qualified private drama teacher. Although the focus is on performing, students who are interested in directing, stage make-up and lighting are very welcome to join in.

There are at least two productions each year, organised by Drama Club and the Music Department, together with performance opportunities such as assemblies and visits to primary schools. We have also taken part in the Shakespeare Schools Festival and Springboards.

We encourage theatre visits and take advantage of workshops offered by touring theatre groups. Visits this year have included *Frankenstein* at the Norwich Playhouse and *The Woman in Black*, with Q and A, at the Theatre Royal.

This year, we will run a Drama Impact Day for Year 9, in order to provide students with a real taste of what the GCSE course is like should they wish to opt for it.

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