Drama Key Stage 3 Curriculum Plan Year 8

Department Information:
At KS3, students are encouraged to appreciate drama as an art form. They explore a variety of themes through different theatre techniques focussing on creating, performing and responding to drama. Through topics ranging from Commedia dell'Arte to Bertolt Brecht, Physical Theatre to realising plays such as DNA, students develop into critical spectators as well as performers, script writers, designers and technicians.

ACHIEVE in the curriculum:

*Drama encourages students to use **collaboration** to develop their understanding of the subject. Students are using their **endurance** to approach different areas of study. In lessons we strive for a save and **happy** environment where students can excel.*

Curriculum Aims & Intent:
The Year 8 curriculum intends to consolidate prior learning in Year 7 and also build students knowledge on techniques and terminology to prepare for Year 9 and GCSE. The aim of each unit is to explore theatre techniques such as thought track, still image, conscience corridor, along side the exploration of styles and genres. Students will continue to build on their performance skills with is a thread that runs through the whole of the Drama curriculum. Similarly, they will continue to develop their verbal evaluation skills through the peer assessment of each others work. The curriculum balances the use of the GCSE structure, enabling students to devise work, perform scripts and analyse texts with introducing students to a wide range of styles, skills and techniques.

Resources:
Script- Blood Brothers by Willy Russel
Scripts- range of short scripts- Fans, Gents, Pocket Money, Fault, Fish, Maze
Stimulus for devising
Trestle masks

Various youtube clips showing examples of the style and techniques which are embedded into the power points

How we keep parents informed:
Year 8 - Progress reports are published 4 times per year, in October, December, April and July, with a face-to-face parents' evening in March.

How parents can help their child:
Visit the theatre
Apply for a school trip visit
Use BBC bitesize KS3 drama to support understanding of terminology.
Test students on key terminology

What we study and when:

Term	Unit, Topic Or Summary Of Work Covered	Knowledge, Understanding & Skills Developed	ACHIEVE / Personal Development Focus	How The Work Is Assessed	Careers Links

1	**Mask work**	Introduced to mask work. They will learn key skills such as clocking the audience, passing the focus and centre of weight. These fundamental to all performance regardless of mask work.	**Collaboration** **Teamwork** **Endurance** **Analysis** **Evaluation** **Description** **Confidence** **Problem Solving** **Negotiation** **Leadership** **Adaptability**	**End of term assessment- performance task**	
2	**Realising text- Blood Brothers**	Blood Brothers is the set text at GCSE. Here students will explore the story using techniques to develop understanding of character such as role of the wall, hot seating and conscience corridor which derive from realism which gets consolidated in Year 9. They will also be introduced to playwriting when they write their own end to the play.		**End of term assessment- performance task**	**Playwriting**
3	**Medieval Theatre**	Students will be introduced to the history of Medieval theatre, studying morality plays such as Everyman, whilst learning about the medieval acting style, themes, guilds and the earliest product placement!		**Mid term assessment- creating task**	**Producing and directing**
4	**Friend Island**	Students will learn about physical theatre/ body as prop whilst creating the set of new reality TV show 'Friend Island!'. Students will create their own original character to live in this villa and develop skills needed for a presenter.		**End of term assessment- performance**	**Designer, presenter,**
5	**Devising**	The aim of the unit is for students to devise their own work. They have been devising throughout previous schemes but here we are explicitly teaching them how to devise through the use of the 5 W. They will explore 3 different forms of stimuli- music, image, installation and then finally will choose one to develop into a final piece. They should apply techniques learnt thus far in their learning.		**Mid term assessment- creating task**	**Dramaturg**

6	**Stage Combat**	The aim of the unit is to teach students different stage combat moves such as upper cut, hair pull, slap, knee to the stomach. Students will then use these to create a fight scene. They will use their learning about stage configuration, devising, character development and focus to create a final performance.	**End of term assessment- performance task.**	**Fight choreographer**