

DRAMA

Pupil year: **Upper 4 (Yr 9)**

Head of Department: **Ms J Bellamy**

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Upper 4 Drama focuses on developing creative confidence, spontaneity and presentation skills. We explore using independent research and enhancing directorial and evaluative skills in practice.

Subject / Topic

‘The Games People Play’

Skills / Attitudes

Exploring the different roles we play in our lives e.g. daughters, sisters, pupils, baby-sitters, employees, friends – using a series of pictures and text excerpts as stimuli. Directors – in pairs, learning to direct the other one’s movements and actions on a given signal, learning to be leader and follower in turns. In threes/fours, taking it in turns to direct a short tableau/scene. Improvisation— how to think on your feet, act spontaneously and create opportunities for others to join in.

Devising upon a theme: ‘Celebrity’, ‘Slavery’

Exploring celebrity culture — the impact on women in our society, the pros and cons of fame: includes independent research and the creation of group drama using new techniques and the revision of the drama toolkit. Critical reflection of own and other’s values leading to discussion and debate.

Storytelling and suspense

Exploration of the structure of traditional stories, identification of styles eg: adventure, fairy tale, urban myth etc. Use of climax and anti-climax, pace, volume, props, lighting to create a thrilling story with extreme moments of suspense incorporating direct address with the audience.

Public Speaking/ Presentation

A study of excellent speakers throughout history identifying their physical and vocal attributes and strategies. Once establishing an individual area of injustice/protest to research, girls devise a protest speech, with accompanying media, using physical gesture, facial and physical expression, use of vocal pace, pause, modulation and contrasts to communicate with their audience.