

DRAMA

Teacher in charge – Ms E. Stones

Aims

Drama is taught at Kingshill School for three main reasons:

- 1. Drama enables pupils to actively explore human behaviour**
Through the active identification with imagined roles and situations, pupils learn to explore issues, events and relationships. They solve problems, challenge stereotypes and make sense of a new perception of reality. We are free to select thematic content, which will usually contribute further to the cultural and / or moral development of the pupils.
- 2. Drama develops communication and social skills/qualities**
Drama is a social activity, which usually requires its participants to work collectively on a creative task. Social skills such as concentration and co-operation are an essential pre-requisite. Working as a member of a team contributes to a pupil's moral development. Pupils should develop their vocabulary and ability to adapt language according to different situations. All pupils should desire increased communication skill, even if they are not inclined towards performance.
- 3. Drama encompasses theatre, film and television mediums**
Pupils develop their skills in making, presenting and evaluating drama. They mainly work in the medium of theatre, but also work in the medium of video. These mediums are popular and powerful forces in our society, so drama provides an important contribution to cultural education. Drama is a creative subject and therefore also contributes to spiritual development.

Course Description

The activities listed below are used regularly in drama lessons. They contribute to the pupil's development in the above areas:

Physical and mental exercises	Role-plays	Discussions
Performance	Physical, mental and vocal warm-up activities	
Trust exercises	Movement	

In drama lessons pupils may be involved in:

- Creating dramatic situations and evolving characters by exploring their situation and feelings
- Using improvisations to discover effective ways of communicating characters or stories
- Experiencing dramatic situations first hand
- Interacting with each other during the drama process
- Issue-based or skill based units
- Developing their understanding of appropriate drama vocabulary

Year 8 units include

Darkwood Manor
Greek Myths
Sparkleshark
Grimms Tales Twisted
Teechers
Shakespeare Scenes

Homework

Pupils may be asked to research or develop class work (e.g. extra rehearsals), on occasions.

Assessment

Pupils will be assessed during each unit of work (approximately every half-term). Pupils are assessed in Making, Performing, Evaluating and Improving.

Time Allocation

1 x 50 minutes per week.

Additional Information

Year 8 pupils will have the opportunity to see a professional theatre production and the opportunity to take part in extra-curricular school productions.