

KS3 Curriculum Summary

Year 7 | *Building the foundation skills that embed towards GCSE Drama*

TERM	WEEKS	LESSON FOCUS	CONTENT / SKILLS
Term 1 Autumn 1	7 weeks	Lesson 1	Introduction & classroom expectations — establishing routines in line with the school behaviour policy
		Lessons 2–3	Devising skills: Storytelling — retelling a simple story as an ensemble
		Lessons 4–5	Devising skills: Still Image — freeze-frames to communicate narrative and character
		Lessons 6–7	Devising skills: Narration — using a narrator to drive and shape a story
		End of Term	Assessment: verbal and written feedback + personal reflection
Term 2 Autumn 2 / Spring 1	6 weeks	Lessons 1–6	Experimental Drama — devising from a stimulus (werewolves / ghost stories)
		End of Term	Practical assessment
Term 3 Spring 2 / Summer	13 weeks	Lesson 1	Scripted work: rules of text & subtext
		Lessons 2–3	Scripted work: vocal skills
		Lessons 4–5	Scripted work: physicality skills
		Lesson 6	Staging forms & audience expectations
		Remaining weeks	Rehearsal and preparation
		End of Year	Whole-year performance showcasing devising, storytelling, still image, narration, vocal, physicality & staging skills

Total: 18 lessons across 26 teaching weeks (Autumn 7 wks + 6 wks / Spring–Summer 13 wks), plus rehearsal & performance weeks.

KS3 Curriculum Summary

Year 8 | *"Into the Forest" • Musical Theatre • Scripts & Play in a Week*

TERM	WEEKS	LESSON FOCUS	CONTENT / SKILLS
Term 1 Autumn 1	7 weeks	Lesson 1	Introduction & recap of classroom expectations / behaviour policy
		Lessons 2–7	"Into the Forest" scheme of work — devising from a fairy-tale stimulus, building on Year 7 storytelling, still image & narration skills
		End of Term	Assessment: verbal and written feedback + personal reflection
Term 2 Autumn 2 / Spring 1	6 weeks	Lessons 1–6	Musical Theatre — song, dance & characterisation; staging a musical number as an ensemble
		End of Term	Practical assessment / performance
Term 3 Spring 2 / Summer	13 weeks	Lesson 1	Scripted work: rules of text & subtext
		Lessons 2–3	Scripted work: vocal skills
		Lessons 4–5	Scripted work: physicality skills
		Lesson 6	Staging forms & audience expectations
		Remaining weeks	"Play in a Week" introduction — reviewing previous school performances, audition techniques & line-learning strategies
		End of Year	Performance / "Play in a Week" showcase

Total: 18 lessons across 26 teaching weeks, plus "Play in a Week" preparation & performance weeks.

KS3 Curriculum Summary

Year 9 | GCSE-linked skills preparing students for KS4 Drama

TERM	WEEKS	LESSON FOCUS	CONTENT / SKILLS
Term 1 Autumn 1	7 weeks	Lesson 1	Introduction, recap of expectations & overview of GCSE Drama assessment objectives
		Lessons 2–3	Devising skills: physical theatre & ensemble storytelling (Frantic Assembly style)
		Lessons 4–5	Devising skills: still image & thought-tracking to explore character intention
		Lessons 6–7	Devising skills: narration & multi-role (Complicité style)
		End of Term	Assessment: verbal and written feedback + devising log reflection (GCSE Component 1 style)
Term 2 Autumn 2 / Spring 1	6 weeks	Lessons 1–6	Experimental Drama — devising in the style of a practitioner, from an issue-based stimulus, linked to GCSE devising criteria
		End of Term	Practical assessment mirroring GCSE devising criteria
Term 3 Spring 2 / Summer	13 weeks	Lesson 1	Scripted work: rules of text & subtext — exam-style extract analysis
		Lessons 2–3	Scripted work: vocal skills to GCSE performance criteria
		Lessons 4–5	Scripted work: physicality skills to GCSE performance criteria
		Lesson 6	Staging forms & audience expectations (links to Component 2: Performance from Text)
		Remaining weeks	Rehearsal & mock practical exam
		End of Year	Assessed performance mirroring GCSE Component 2

Total: 18 lessons across 26 teaching weeks, mirroring GCSE Component 1 (Devising) & Component 2 (Performance from Text).