

Year 7 Drama Curriculum Map

Autumn Term: Collaboration through Movement and Meaning through Movement

In this scheme of work students will be introduced to a number of physical theatre skills used by the theatre group Frantic Assembly. They must then combine these skills to create a choreographed performance in small groups.

They will then adapt these skills to represent the story of a group of people moving through a busy train station. We also begin to introduce the concept of creative response to encourage students to add their own ideas within the structure introduced by the classroom teacher.

Component 1: Introduction to Drama and Collaboration

- Understanding the basics of drama: elements, conventions, and key terminology.
- Building a collaborative and inclusive class environment.
- Icebreaker activities and ensemble-building exercises.

Component 2: Exploring Movement in Drama

- Introduction to movement as a dramatic tool.
- Group activities focusing on coordination, spatial awareness, and physical expression.
- Improvisational exercises incorporating movement to convey emotions and narratives.

Component 3: Introduction to Frantic Assembly Techniques

- Overview of Frantic Assembly: Understanding the company's approach to physical theatre and movement.
- Exploring key techniques used by Frantic Assembly in collaborative work.
- Practical application of Frantic Assembly techniques in group exercises.

Spring Term: "The Man" by Raymond Briggs

This scheme of work focuses on a short piece of script adapted from a story by Raymond Briggs. The focus continues to be on physical skills, particularly Mime, as we explore ways to represent the different heights of the characters.

Component 1: Introduction to "The Man"

- Reading and analysing the text by Raymond Briggs.
- Understanding the themes and characters within "The Man."
- Group discussions on key elements of the story.

Component 2: Characterization and Role Play

- Exploring character development through role-playing activities.
- Scene analysis and interpretation through dramatic techniques.
- Mime as a skill: Incorporating mime exercises to enhance character expression and physical storytelling.
- Introduction to Physical Theatre: Applying physical theatre skills to create unique and engaging character movements and interactions.

Component 3: Scripted Performances and Reflection

- Adapting scenes from "The Man" into scripted performances.
- Rehearsing and refining performances through peer feedback.
- Exploring Creative Solutions: Representing the Different Sizes of Characters - Considering creative techniques, such as physicality, movement, and perspective, to authentically represent the varying sizes of characters in "The Man."

Summer Term: "Romeo and Juliet"

This is a cross curricular project in collaboration with the English department. In this scheme of work we begin to look in more detail at character motivation and introduce some of the key drama vocabulary that cover the ways in which actors convey information to an audience.

Component 1: Introduction to Shakespeare and "Romeo and Juliet"

- Understanding the historical context of Shakespearean drama.
- Reading and analysing key scenes from "Romeo and Juliet."
- Discussing themes, characters, and the tragic elements of the play.

Component 2: Exploring Character Dynamics

- Character analysis and discussion on the relationships in "Romeo and Juliet."
- Improvisational activities exploring character interactions.
- Group projects reimagining scenes from different character perspectives.
- Focused Study: Death of Mercutio Scene - In-depth analysis and performance exploration of the pivotal scene, emphasizing emotional expression and impact.

Component 3: Performance of "Romeo and Juliet" Scenes

- Collaborative rehearsal of selected scenes from "Romeo and Juliet."
- Special emphasis on the Death of Mercutio scene, considering its emotional intensity and significance.
- Group performances with an overall focus on conveying the emotions and themes of the play, with particular attention to the chosen scene.
- Reflection on the experience of working with a classic text and the specific challenges and insights gained from the Death of Mercutio scene.