

Year 8 Drama Curriculum Review

Areas of Learning

- Physical theatre/comedy
- Shakespeare text: e.g. Macbeth
- Chorus
- Poetry in performance
- Creating, adapting and sustaining roles for performance
- Devising from different stimuli (e.g. exploring Bullying through a newspaper article)
- Writing in response to performance (e.g. evaluations, writing in role, poetry)
- Scripting
- Reading and performing scripts
- Evaluating and applying knowledge and understanding
- Understanding different dramatic conventions

Approaches to learning

- Examining historical context, character presentation and relationships (e.g. in Macbeth)
- Activity related drama warm ups
- Working in groups to create freeze frames, soundscapes, mind traps, mime sequences, short improvisations or devised scenes
- Working in groups to direct and perform pieces of script
- Hot-seating and thought-tracking
- Reading and performing poems and scripts as a chorus and individually
- Responding to text through various forms of writing (script, letters, diaries)
- Structuring improvisations and performing devised and scripted plays
- Responding to performances: To evaluate a piece of drama taking into account atmosphere, staging pace, movement, gesture and delivery of lines and the needs of an audience

Examples of learning

Read newspaper article on incident of cyberbullying. In groups of four/five pupils devise a scene from the victim's life. Show as a piece of forum theatre and discuss outcomes.

In groups of five pupils perform A.A. Milnes poem 'The King's Breakfast' as a piece of physical comedy, using a narrator and split stage convention.

References

National Curriculum for England 2014 – English KS3
Drama in schools: Arts Council England