

OAJW Drama Curriculum: Statement of Intent

Purpose of study

The Drama Department at OAJW aims to provide students with the skills to develop their confidence, leadership, communication, time management, organisation, creativity and self-discipline, all of which are key in helping to shape our students into emotionally intelligent, well-rounded individuals who are confident to explore and question the world around them.

We value character, competence and community in our curriculum:

- **Character:** Engaging all pupils in dramatic learning that develops creativity, resilience and the confidence to express feelings and thoughts, experiment with new dramatic ideas and grow imaginations.
- **Competence:** Developing pupils' ability to make drama well so that dramatic outcomes are excellent, and aspirations are raised.

Ensuring that all are equipped for further dramatic study if they choose it.

- **Community:** Inspiring all pupils to develop a lifelong love, appreciation and understanding of a wide range of dramatic styles and genres. Ensuring all experience the power of drama to educate children about the world they are part of, but also the differences between societies, places and times.

Core concepts and principles of progression

The Oasis Drama curriculum is carefully planned so that core dramatic skills, knowledge and understanding are developed over time.

- General performance skills (physical/movement, vocal, and interpretive skills) are developed through solo and group exercises, and explicit teaching of techniques which are embedded by returning to these same practices in increasingly challenging contexts throughout KS3.
- Devising and improvisation opportunities are integrated throughout the curriculum, incrementally increasing in demand and complexity from solo still images, to full performances in larger groups.
- Dramatic language and contextual understanding of drama begins with simple dramatic concepts and language then builds and accumulates over time as children learn from a wide range of genres and traditions, watching, describing, and analysing drama through speech and writing with increasing competency.
- Group work skills are initially taught through explicit teaching of rehearsal and communication skills. Then group work skills (leadership, empathy, collaboration, listening, resilience) are developed through increasingly challenging script and devising work as students' progress through the school.

Aims/outcomes

Through our carefully sequenced and ambitious curriculum we intend that our students will achieve these aims/outcomes:

1. To equip all students with the knowledge, skills and understanding so that they will know how to make drama well, being able to:

- Perform drama on stage alone and with others
- Interpret and perform professional repertoire
- Create their own dramatic performances, devising and improvising alone and with others
- Describe and analyse drama using subject specific language

2. To induct all students into existing dramatic and theatre traditions and their practices of making-theatre, through:

- performing, listening to, reviewing and evaluating drama across a range of historical periods, genres, cultures and traditions
- engaging in extracurricular clubs and enrichment activities that allow them to develop their own dramatic interests and skills
- watching and taking part in live performances

3. To enable all students to develop their character, confidence and identity through drama, evidenced by:

- a lifelong love of drama and theatre
- resilience to rehearse, improve, perform, give and take feedback and reflect effectively
- empathy, sensitivity, understanding and openness to others
- confidence, collaboration, creativity and leadership skills