

## Ashlawn Transition Year 6 to 7

### Subject: Drama

#### Why is it important to study Drama?

We believe that learning about drama and theatre is worthwhile, engaging and relevant in its own right, 'art for art's sake' if you like! However, the Drama Department is also in a unique position to be able to provide high quality learning experiences that help our young people develop the transferable skills crucial to their future success. You do not need to have any desire to work in the field of drama and theatre to benefit from learning in our department.

The **National Career Service** says: 'We often read news stories about how employers feel that applicants who've left school, college or university lack the '**soft skills**' they want. These skills are transferable skills, so they can be used in many different types of jobs. They are personal qualities and attitudes that can help you to work well with others and make a positive contribution to organisations you work for. Technical skills can be taught more easily than soft skills, which tend to be either personal characteristics or skills that have been fine-tuned over a period of time.'

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/aboutus/newsarticles/Pages/Spotlight-SoftSkills.aspx>

***We offer you countless, high quality opportunities to develop transferable skills such as:***

**Communicating**  
**Making decisions**  
**Showing commitment**  
**Flexibility**  
**Time management**  
**Leadership skills**  
**Creativity and problem-solving skills**  
**Being a team player**  
**Accepting responsibility**  
**Ability to work under pressure**

#### The Drama Programme of Study :

Some of the projects we will cover are as follows:

**Introduction to Drama:** Learning the 'basics' of crafting a performance for an audience.

**Darkwood Manor:** Delving into the spooky world of Darkwood Manor & learning some new drama techniques.

**Vocalisation:** Focussing on how we use our voice for expression.

**Drama Techniques, Context & Genre:** Learning how to build exciting drama performances using context & genre.

**Characterisation:** Looking at how to use physicalisation & vocalisation to create characters.

**Mask:** Learning how to perform in mask.

**Script TBC:** Investigating how to take a script from page to stage.

#### How many lessons will I have over two weeks?

You will have 2 lessons over the two weeks – most likely to be 1 lesson per week.

#### What will I be studying in Year 7?

As well as the topics listed above, we will focus on developing transferable skills. Skills such as:

- ✓ **Team work**
- ✓ **Communication**
- ✓ **Problem solving**
- ✓ **Time management**
- ✓ **Empathy**

- ✓ Flexibility
- ✓ Leadership
- ✓ Self-control
- ✓ Commitment
- ✓ Decision making
- ✓ Working under pressure
- ✓ Self-expression

#### **What subject specific skills will I be developing in Year 7?**

There are a whole host of different drama skills & techniques you will learn in Year 7. Some of these are:

- ✓ Freeze frames
- ✓ Mime
- ✓ Naturalism
- ✓ Dramatic irony
- ✓ Context
- ✓ Conflict
- ✓ Marking the moment
- ✓ Proxemics
- ✓ Tension
- ✓ Slow motion
- ✓ Flash backs

#### **What could I do before I come to Ashlawn to prepare for my studies in Drama?**

There isn't anything specific you need to do. However, it would be useful to watch some exciting drama performances. We would highly recommend *Robin Hood Mime* by *Off Balance Theatre Company* which is easily available on YouTube.

Perhaps you could also take a trip to the theatre to watch something live? On our doorstep is the Royal Shakespeare Theatre at Stratford, Coventry's Belgrade Theatre, Warwick Arts Centre & Rugby Theatre.

#### **What else would you recommend to help my understanding of Drama?**

Perhaps you could read a play? As you are reading maybe you could use your imagination to envisage what it might be like on stage. We would love to hear about any recommendations for exciting plays as we would like to choose a new one for you to study.

**We look forward to welcoming you to Ashlawn's Drama Department soon!**