



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The Drama Department

Welcome

Drama is growing every year here at St Joseph's. We offer a varied and exciting curriculum that enables pupils to explore all areas of Performing Arts whilst developing their social skills along the way. This year we have responded to the changing government requirements by changing our GCSE Course from

Performing Arts to Drama. We strongly believe that pupils should be able to express themselves and develop their creativity in a constructive and safe environment.

Our aims:

- To develop a range of skills such as team work, leadership, social skills and confidence.
- To give pupils the opportunity to explore the creative industry and what it has to offer.

Key Stage 3

Pupils have one lesson of Drama per week.

In Drama we explore genres such as Theatre in Education and Physical Theatre. We also explore ways to create theatre such as Devising, Improvising and Script Writing. We teach a wide range of topics and provide many opportunities to extend a topic of interest to students further than this.

Year 7	Year 8
Adverts	Status and Improvisation
Silent Movies	Greek Theatre
Paired Script Work	WW2 Evacuees
Frankenstein	

Key Stage 4

Following on from the foundations built at Key Stage 3, pupils have the option to study Drama at GCSE

GCSE Drama

The course aims to develop candidates' creativity, personal growth, self-confidence, communication and analytical skills. It promotes pupils' involvement in and enjoyment of drama as Performers, Devisers, Directors and Designers. It provides opportunities for pupils to attend professional and

community dramatic performances and to develop their skills as informed and thoughtful audience members.

Through the study of this specification, pupils will be given opportunities to participate in and interpret their own and others' drama. They will investigate the forms, styles and context of drama and will learn to work collaboratively to develop ideas, to express feelings, to experiment with technical elements and to reflect on their own and others' performances.

By studying GCSE Drama, pupils will learn more about the subject and its contribution to social and cultural commentary and will come to appreciate that drama, whether intended for audiences or not, provides significant opportunities for expressing culture and personal identity.

The course suits pupils who have a strong interest in Drama, enjoy performing and working as part of a team.

Extra-curricular clubs

In Drama the extra-curricular clubs are extremely important. We offer a range of clubs that pupils can attend on a weekly basis:

Global Rock Challenge

St Joseph's has been taking part in Rock Challenge for the past five years. It is a global dance/drama competition that promotes healthy lifestyles in teenagers and gives them an opportunity to achieve a natural high without the use of alcohol or drugs. Pupils are given the opportunity to perform at Portsmouth Guildhall in front of a large audience of family, friends, other schools, and professionals from the Performing Arts industry. Pupils who do not wish to dance/act on stage can be a part of the large backstage team involved in designing, building and making set and costumes. Rehearsals are at least once a week and the performance is usually in March. Rock Challenge is open to all pupils from Year 7-11.

Drama Club

Drama club is on once a week and is available to all year groups. It allows pupils to express themselves in an environment where everyone loves Drama. Pupils often create their own pieces of theatre and then perform them in the Summer Showcase at end of the year.