

Year 7

Term	Topic
Autumn 1	Basic Skills This double topic is an introductory course to Key Stage 3 Drama. Half Term 1 explores the basic techniques of drama which are vocal, physical and facial expression through the concepts of Freeze Frames, Thought Tracking and Narration.
Autumn 2	Basic Skills This double topic is an introductory course to Key Stage 3 Drama. Half Term 2 explores the element of story-telling with a focus on character development including the central techniques learnt in Half Term 1.
Spring 1	Peer Pressure This topic will cover the influence of peer pressure and the consequences it can have. During the course of the topic the students will look at abstract drama, freeze frames, hot seating, mime, marking the moment, role play, soundscapes and improvisation.
Spring 2	Script Work & Skills Development This topic will develop the skills that have been learnt so far through a series of lessons looking at different scripts and texts. Underlying this topic will be the ability to understand how to learn lines and develop characters from existing texts rather than creating characters through improvisation.
Summer 1	Introduction to Shakespeare This topic will introduce a variety of Shakespeare's famous plays and how we can modernise them for a contemporary audience. Students will focus on nurturing their skills through different workshops each week on these plays and develop their understanding of the history of theatre.
Summer 2	Physical Theatre & Musical Theatre To end the year, students will have the option to look at physical theatre or musical theatre for their final assessment. These are two different contemporary styles of acting where students will be given the opportunity to learn how we can combine acting skills with movement, dance and song to become well rounded and versatile performers.

Year 8

Term	Topic
Autumn 1	Physical Theatre This topic will recap students learning and will explore the professional theatre company 'Frantic Assembly'. Through a variety of workshop style lessons and improvisations, students will create a movement only piece of work based on 'The Hillsborough Disaster'.
Autumn 2	Pantomime This topic will focus on the idea of blocking, the elements which make up a pantomime, freeze frame and role play using 'Cinderella' as a stimulus.
Spring 1	Shakespeare This topic explores Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet'. Through structured improvisation, devising and character profiles, the students should gain a solid understanding of Shakespearian theatre and a good knowledge of the chosen text. They will also stage a modern interpretation of the narrative to demonstrate that this tale can be set at any time.
Spring 2	Naturalism This topic will allow students to look at a key practitioner in theatre 'Stanislavski' and this theory of Naturalistic acting. Students will devise their own performance work based on a given stimulus and use all of Stanislavski's techniques within rehearsal and their final piece.
Summer 1	Blood Brothers This topic explores Willy Russell's 'Blood Brothers'. Through structured improvisation, selected scene scripted work and selection of songs, the students should gain a solid understanding of the themes and characters in the play. This is preparation for the set text at GCSE level.
Summer 2	Behind The Scenes This final topic will be a written assessment and will explore costume design, set design, lighting, props and marketing to give students an understanding of all the elements that make up a piece of theatre along with adding career experience and guidance into the roles within a theatre.