

## **Drama and Theatre Studies**

### **Intent:**

At Wirral Grammar School for Girls, we aim to provide a Drama and Theatre curriculum that is relevant and engaging. We firmly believe in the importance of studying drama and theatre as a subject in its own right, and deliver a knowledge based curriculum that covers a wide range of performance styles from the traditions of theatre history and development, right up to current performance practice.

### **Implementation:**

During their time at Wirral Grammar School for Girls, students will be accessing a high quality, professional Drama provision, enabling and encouraging pupils to be empowered to think creatively and critically – helping them to become more inquisitive, persistent, imaginative and collaborative individuals ready to tackle the demands of life in the 21st century. We provide guidance and support for students wishing to take their studies to the next level, and have a high success rate of students gaining places at prestigious drama schools and conservatoires.

The Drama Department achieves its aims by:

- providing an opportunity for pupils to develop skills of communication through physical and vocal language;
- engendering a feeling of self worth and confidence;
- exploring feelings and emotions through a variety of strategies, mediums and elements of Drama which are intrinsic to every learning plan;
- developing an understanding of the world through a curriculum which explores different cultures;
- delivering a differentiated curriculum which allows all pupils access to the essential elements of Drama;
- delivering a curriculum which promotes respect for all people regardless of race or gender;
- allowing pupils to access Drama and Theatre by exposure to both professional and amateur productions, as well as understanding and exploring job roles within the theatre industry.
- providing extra-curricular opportunities, extending pupils' learning outside of the classroom. This not only includes pupils having the opportunity to partake in an array of performances but also opportunities for the pupils to collaborate with professional practitioners within the industry, developing pupils' craft and artistry, drawing inspiration from these workshops and feeding this into their practical and academic study of drama;
- providing links with the community.

**Impact:**

Through the study of Drama and Theatre we recognise that we will equip pupils not only with subject specific knowledge that will equip them for further study, but also with a range of transferable skills applicable to a wide variety of situations, such as problem solving and critical thinking abilities.

Through engagement in drama, pupils will develop an understanding that drama is a creative and cultural activity, allowing exploration of the world of people from other places, times and cultures, and to examine differences and similarities with their own environment, understanding the language of theatre as international, understood by everyone.

**Possible careers and opportunities:** Jobs in the theatre industry vary immensely, from performing, to backstage, to theatre management. Work can also be found in applied theatre, in areas such as social care and prisons. Studying Drama and Theatre also prepares pupils for a wide variety of non-theatre roles, such as teaching and workshop leading, and the transferable skills learnt are applicable to almost all careers, from law to dentistry!

**Facilities:** Fully equipped Drama Studio (G23); Second studio/Theory room (G23a); Hall with Proscenium Arch Stage, lighting rig and sound systems.

**Support:** GCSE group intervention sessions; one-to-one support.

**Year 7 Curriculum:**

- Introduction to Drama
- Commedia dell'arte and Pantomime
- Witches
- Alice in Wonderland

**Year 8 Curriculum:**

- The Secret Room
- Greek Theatre
- Texts in Practice

**Year 9 Curriculum:**

- Girls Like That
- Noughts and Crosses
- Devising and Practitioners

All groups are also given the opportunity to watch a digital theatre production and to develop their analysis and evaluation of live theatre