


Performing Arts Department – Year 7 Drama

The Emerging Drama Student will be introduced to foundation drama skills and techniques, learn how to create and perform a character, begin to develop an appreciation for drama through the ages and be introduced to working with a script.						
 Shirley High Curriculum Map	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
	Theme/Topic/Skill:	Theme/Topic/Skill:	Theme/Topic/Skill:	Theme/Topic/Skill:	Theme/Topic/Skill:	Theme/Topic/Skill:
	Foundation for Drama – Murder Mystery	Popstars	Matilda	Little Sister	Amadora	The Twits
Why Now?	Introduces the basics of drama, including teamwork, character creation, and storytelling. This lays the groundwork for all future schemes.	Builds on these basics with fun, creative tasks focused on performance and audience engagement, helping students grow in confidence.	Combines acting, movement, and music, challenging students to explore expressive performance while developing stage presence.	Introduces more emotional depth and character work, allowing students to explore storytelling with greater complexity.	Focuses on teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving, encouraging students to apply their skills in collaborative settings.	Brings everything together with physical theatre and exaggerated characters, offering a fun and creative way to showcase all the skills learned throughout the year.
Fundamental Concepts	<p>Drama Expectations and Foundation Skills:</p> <p>Understanding the behavioral, collaborative, and creative expectations of drama at SHS, establishing a strong foundation for future work.</p> <p>Still Image Creation: Learning how to create successful still images that convey clear meaning, focus on detail, and establish relationships and atmosphere.</p> <p>Mime and Physical Expression: Developing an understanding of mime and its principles, using precise gestures and movements to communicate effectively without words.</p> <p>- Introduction to Physical Theatre: Exploring physical theatre through activities like creating an essence machine, emphasizing collaboration and abstract storytelling.</p> <p>- Role-Play Development: Learning how to create and sustain a role, considering character motivations, relationships, and reactions within a scene.</p> <p>- Performance Skills and Structure: Creating and performing a short piece that clearly establishes the location, scenario, and characters, with a structured beginning, middle, and end for clarity and impact.</p>	<p>Exploring Fame and Identity:</p> <p>Understanding the themes of fame, identity, and competition, and how they can be represented through performance.</p> <p>Characterisation Skills: Developing unique characters inspired by pop culture, using vocal and physical techniques to portray personality and status.</p> <p>Use of Ensemble Work: Collaborating to create dynamic group scenes, such as auditions or concerts, emphasizing synchronization and teamwork.</p> <p>- Improvisation and Role-Play: Learning to think quickly and creatively through improvisation and role-play, exploring scenarios such as interviews, conflicts, and performances.</p> <p>- Performance Techniques: Using staging, proxemics, and body language to convey relationships and dynamics within the story.</p> <p>- Creating a Popstar Performance: Devising and performing a scene that captures the glamour, drama, and challenges of being a popstar, with a clear narrative structure and entertaining delivery.</p>	<p>Introduction to Musical Theatre:</p> <p>Exploring the genre of musical theatre through <i>Matilda the Musical</i>, focusing on storytelling through music, lyrics, and movement.</p> <p>Character Exploration: Developing an understanding of Matilda's world, including her home life and key relationships, and practically exploring the characteristics of Miss Trunchbull.</p> <p>Symbolism in Performance: Using actions and movements to represent and symbolize the lyrics of <i>School Song</i>, deepening the connection between text and performance.</p> <p>- Status and Tension through Movement: Learning how to use movement and body language to convey status, build tension, and create dynamic scenes.</p> <p>- Exploration of Themes through Drama Techniques: Using still images and voice work to explore key moments, such as the oppressive nature of <i>The Chokey</i>, and performing the <i>Chokey Chant</i> with integrated movement.</p> <p>- Integration of Voice and Physicality: Combining vocal delivery and physical performance to create engaging and expressive scenes, emphasizing the unique aspects of musical theatre.</p>	<p>Explore family relationships, grief, and conflict.</p> <p>Discuss important social issues like responsibility and resilience.</p> <p>Characters</p> <p>Understand character motivations and emotions.</p> <p>Practice acting techniques like showing subtext and emotional depth.</p> <p>Drama Skills</p> <p>Use hot-seating to explore characters.</p> <p>Practice physical theatre and improvisation to bring scenes to life.</p> <p>Perform monologues and group work to build confidence.</p> <p>Storytelling</p> <p>Study how the story builds tension and reaches key turning points.</p> <p>Explore how different structures (linear or non-linear) impact the audience.</p> <p>Performance Techniques</p> <p>Experiment with voice, tone, and body language to express emotions.</p> <p>Use space (proxemics) to show character relationships and power.</p> <p>Audience Impact</p> <p>Learn how to connect with and evoke emotions in the audience.</p>	<p>Teamwork: Learn to work well with others.</p> <p>Conflict: Solve problems in a group.</p> <p>Belonging: Feel part of a team.</p> <p>Drama Skills</p> <p>Acting: Show emotions with your body and voice.</p> <p>Improvising: Make up scenes.</p> <p>Freeze Frames: Create still pictures to tell a story.</p> <p>Story</p> <p>Drama: Make the story exciting.</p> <p>Key Moments: Focus on the most important parts.</p> <p>Performance</p> <p>Body Language: Move like your character.</p> <p>Voice: Speak like your character.</p> <p>Teamwork: Perform well with others</p>	<p>Characterisation and Exaggeration:</p> <p>Exploring the exaggerated characteristics of Mr. and Mrs. Twit through vocal and physical techniques to portray their grotesque personalities.</p> <p>- Storytelling Through Movement: Using movement and physical theatre to bring to life the humorous and chaotic events in the story, such as the pranks played on one another.</p> <p>- Exploring Themes of Revenge and Justice: Understanding the underlying themes of the story and how they can be represented dramatically.</p> <p>- Use of Ensemble Work: Collaborating to create dynamic group scenes, such as the animals' rebellion, emphasizing teamwork and synchronization.</p> <p>- Drama Techniques for Comedy: Applying techniques like mime, slapstick, and still image to enhance the comedic elements of the story.</p> <p>- Creating a Performance: Devising and performing scenes from the story that clearly communicate characters, actions, and themes with a focus on engaging and entertaining an audience.</p>
Students will...	<p>Lesson 1: Drama Basics & Murder Mystery Genre Introduce drama expectations and the murder mystery genre. Create a still image of a crime scene.</p> <p>Lesson 2: Still Images for Storytelling Learn to create effective still images to show suspects, motives, and tension.</p> <p>Lesson 3: Mastering Mime Use mime to re-create key moments leading up to the crime, focusing on clarity and detail.</p> <p>Lesson 4: Physical Theatre: Essence Machine Build an essence machine to symbolize the crime scene, using movement and sound.</p> <p>Lesson 5: Role-Play and Characterisation Develop suspects through hot-seating and interrogations, focusing on motives and alibis.</p> <p>Lesson 6: Devising a Murder Mystery Scene</p>	<p>Lesson 1: Introduction to Popstars</p> <p>Explore the world of pop music and fame.</p> <p>Warm-up with drama games to build confidence.</p> <p>Create a popstar character with a name, personality, and backstory.</p> <p>Lesson 2: Group Dynamics</p> <p>Work in groups to form a pop band.</p> <p>Practice teamwork and collaboration through role-play.</p> <p>Develop band roles (e.g., lead singer, manager, etc.).</p> <p>Lesson 3: Behind the Scenes</p> <p>Create a scene showing a "behind-the-scenes" argument or challenge for the band.</p> <p>Focus on using voice and body language to show emotions.</p>	<p>Lesson 1: Introduction to key musicals.</p> <p>Learn about the story of <i>Matilda</i> and <i>Wicked</i> and its key characters.</p> <p>Discuss the themes of bravery, intelligence, and overcoming challenges.</p> <p>Warm-up with drama games focused on creativity and teamwork.</p> <p>Lesson 2: Exploring the Characters</p> <p>Focus on key characters like Matilda, Miss Trunchbull, and Miss Honey.</p> <p>Use hot-seating to explore each character's thoughts and emotions.</p> <p>Practice using voice and body language to portray a chosen character.</p> <p>Lesson 3: Story through pictures and building tension.</p>	<p>Lesson 1: Introduction to Little Sister</p> <p>Introduce the story and themes of <i>Little Sister</i> (family, relationships, and emotions).</p> <p>Consider the positives and negatives of reality TV.</p> <p>Warm-up with drama games to build focus and teamwork.</p> <p>Create a freeze-frame showing a key family moment.</p> <p>Lesson 2: Exploring Characters</p> <p>Focus on developing the main characters' personalities and emotions.</p> <p>Use hot-seating to delve deeper into the thoughts and feelings of a chosen character.</p> <p>Practice using voice and movement to portray emotions.</p> <p>Lesson 3: Conflict in the Story</p>	<p>Lesson 1: Introduction to Amadora</p> <p>Learn about the fictional world of Amadora and its themes (teamwork, community, and problem-solving).</p> <p>Warm-up with group drama games to build collaboration.</p> <p>Create a group freeze-frame showing a scene from Amadora's community.</p> <p>Lesson 2: Developing Characters</p> <p>Create unique characters who live in Amadora (e.g., leaders, helpers, or troublemakers).</p> <p>Use hot-seating to explore your character's thoughts and feelings.</p> <p>Begin improvising short scenes featuring your character.</p> <p>Lesson 3: Exploring Conflict</p> <p>Introduce a problem or conflict in Amadora (e.g., a</p>	<p>Lesson 1: Introduction to The Twits</p> <p>Learn about the story and characters of <i>The Twits</i> by Roald Dahl.</p> <p>Discuss the themes of humor, cruelty, and karma.</p> <p>Warm-up with fun drama games to explore exaggeration and character traits.</p> <p>Create freeze-frames to show key moments from the story.</p> <p>Lesson 2: Exploring Characters</p> <p>Focus on the personalities of Mr. and Mrs. Twit.</p> <p>Use hot-seating to explore their motivations and backstories.</p> <p>Practice using exaggerated movements and voices to bring the characters to life.</p> <p>Lesson 3: Physical Theatre</p> <p>Explore how to use physical theatre to recreate funny and</p>

