

THE WARRINER SCHOOL

GCSE DRAMA



ABOUT US

The Warriner School Department aims to provide lively, stimulating and purposeful lessons for all our students. We have a range of specialist teaching spaces and equipment to help stimulate creativity and to aid students' development as they explore a variety of skills.

As well as developing students' subject knowledge, we aim to aid students in developing self-confidence, wellbeing and team-work skills—vital skills for life—through the *practical* exploration of dramatic texts and the creation and performance of students' own original devised work.

TEACHING METHODS

We use a number of different teaching styles in this course as we explore aspects of drama and theatre both practically and theoretically.

Group work plays a very important part in this subject, as does peer review and teacher/ student feedback. Research projects lead into student-led sessions, in conjunction with more formal teacher input.

Rehearsal work on the plays studied forms a vital part of the learning process. This feeds into the critical review of performance work by both students and professional companies.

Steps to Success in GCSE Drama

1. Be enthusiastic in lessons – 'Have a go'!
2. You must attend all lessons and rehearsals (lunchtime and after school) to avoid letting others down in group assessment situations.
3. Be supportive of others' performance work. You can learn a lot from evaluating the work of other people.
4. Be organised about looking after the notes and scripts you are given. Complete all written tasks diligently. This will help you in your coursework and final examination.
5. Attend as much live theatre as possible. This doesn't have to be in London ! The Mill Arts Centre in Banbury has lots of fantastic plays.
6. Be the leader – do not be afraid to initiate ideas. Listen to everyone's ideas and select the best ones to try out.
7. Listen to the advice of your teachers and act upon it.
8. Think about the emotions of the character. Can you imagine how they feel?
9. Think about your voice: pitch, pace and volume.
10. Think about your body language, posture, facial expressions and gestures.
11. Keep a journal of all the lessons in which you participate. Explain the skills you are learning or developing. Make sure you keep a record of the ideas you contributed and how others responded to those ideas and how you respond to the ideas of others.
12. Drama written work is about process ! Keep on top of your written notes, don't skip a week ! Its very difficult to remember !

Useful websites:

theater.nytimes.com

www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/discover

www.franticassembly.co.uk

www.nationaltheatre.org.uk