



# St Benedict's Catholic School

*The Catholic Secondary School for West Suffolk*

## **Drama Curriculum Guide**

### **Year 9**

#### **Autumn Taught Content**

Students begin the year by looking at a play text currently 'Missing Dan Nolan' by Mark Wheeler. They will use prior learning to develop techniques on exploring a text, focussing on performance skills and also exploring key questions that will arise at GCSE level. Looking specifically at staging, context, and characterisation.

Drama skills:

- Intention of playwright
- Performance conventions
- Character
- Use of space

The second half of the term students will begin to create a piece of drama through a devising project based on the topic of Gangs, looking at particular event in history to create a piece of drama.

Drama skills:

- Group work
- Structure
- Style
- Characterisation
- Use of space
- Form and structure

#### **Spring Taught Content**

In the spring term students will look at roles within Theatre Industry this unit will build upon students experience of drama and theatre learnt so far and will enable them to develop knowledge on theatre roles through the style of Musical theatre. Lessons will take the form of workshops with an underlining theme linking them.

Drama Skills:

- Industry jobs

- Technical roles
- Style
- Set design

## **Summer Taught Content**

Moving on from roles in the theatre industry students will devise a piece of theatre based on an influential practitioner. They will collate the skills they have already developed and refine these to create a short performance.

Drama skills focus:

- Drama devices
- Group work
- Structure
- Style
- Characterisation

The second part of the summer term enables students to revisit theatre history and explore the style of Soap Operas, looking at key conventions, techniques, characters, and plot lines linking back to the style of melodrama.

Drama skills focus:

- Acting style
- Plot lines
- Characters
- Performance style

## **Assessment**

Students are formally assessed in line with the schools policy, in drama we look to assess both formally and informally in the year; this will be based on responding, performing and evaluating.

## **Homework Expectations**

Homework is set on Edulink, when needed to enhance students learning. Tasks such as, research, theatre style examples, lesson reflection, or a quiz.

## **Reading List**

**Missing Dan Nolan:** <https://cymru.ocr.org.uk/Images/284847-missing-dan-nolan-teacher-guide.pdf>  
<https://www.dramaandtheatre.co.uk/practical/article/play-for-study-missing-dan-nolan>

**Theatre roles:** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zhf8gwx/revision/1>  
<http://www.theatretrust.org.uk/discover-theatres/theatre-faqs/253-who-works-in-a-theatre>  
<https://www.nyfa.edu/student-resources/10-musical-theatre-jobs-essential-for-a-production/>

**Devising:** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zjw3vk7>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zg9x34j/revision/1>

**Soap Opera:** <https://www.classicfm.com/discover-music/periods-genres/opera/why-tv-soap-operas-so-called/>

## **Extra and Super Curricular Opportunities**

We aim to offer 2 trips to the theatre a year

We have a weekly Drama club at lunchtime

The opportunity to be involved in the annual school production