



St Paul's Academy

Drama Curriculum Overview

Why we teach Drama at St Paul's Academy:

At St Paul's Academy, our Drama curriculum nurtures creative expression, collaboration, and personal confidence. Students develop transferable skills—such as communication, teamwork, and critical thinking—that support success beyond the classroom.

We provide a safe and inclusive space where students can take creative risks, explore ideas, and grow as performers and thinkers through both lessons and extracurricular opportunities.

At Key Stage 3, students build core performance skills, exploring a variety of styles, techniques, and stimuli. They learn to devise, interpret, and evaluate drama, while developing confidence with subject-specific vocabulary and contextual understanding.

At Key Stage 4, students follow the EDUQAS specification, exploring performance, direction, and design in greater depth. They gain insight into professional theatre practices and strengthen both their practical and theoretical understanding of the subject.

Disciplinary Knowledge



Create:
Research, Develop, Select, Structure & Form, Genre, Refine



Perform:
Rehearse, Apply, Perform, Communicate



Respond:

Substantive Knowledge:

Physical

Vocal

Technical

Communication

Genre

Interpretation

Evaluation & Analysis

Social / Historical Context

Learning for Life and Careers through Drama

At St Paul's Academy, Drama plays a key role in preparing students for life beyond the classroom. Our Key Stage 4 Drama curriculum builds on the foundations from Key Stage 3 and helps students develop essential personal and professional skills that are valued across many career pathways—not just those in the arts.

Progression and Future Pathways

GCSE Drama provides a strong springboard to further study in the performing arts, such as A Level Drama or BTEC Performing Arts at college. It can also lead to training in related fields such as media, production, design, or teaching. Students who study Drama often pursue careers where confidence, creativity, and communication are essential.

Curriculum and Career Connections (Gatsby Benchmark 4)

Our Drama curriculum links learning to the world of work by:

- Studying the work and impact of actors, directors, designers, and playwrights
- Exploring real-life performance contexts and production roles