

Why try Drama?

Drama teaches important life skills, including creativity, risk taking, communication and collaboration. It provides a way to enjoy wonderful new experiences and make new friends.



Who can do it?

Anyone can get involved in drama. Every year we run an ambitious programme of productions and cast as many pupils as we can through open auditions. Acting (on stage and on film) isn't the only area pupils can get involved in; stage management and the technical aspects of theatre are equally important. Towards the end of the autumn term or early in the spring term, we put on a play in the Meyer Theatre aimed at the older pupils and a second play, for Years 9 and 10, in the summer. Other annual productions include the Shakespeare Schools Festival, Short Cuts (an evening of short plays, performed by Sixth Form pupils), the Junior House Plays and the Director in Residence's production, which can be anything from a site-specific piece to an installation.



Highlights from 2018-19

- A powerful, emotional production of Stephen Sondheim's gruesome musical *Sweeney Todd*
- An edgy double-bill of Sartre's *No Exit* and a Punch & Judy show featuring actors instead of puppets
- A comedy sci-fi film made by and starring pupils in Year 9 and 10

Looking forward to 2019-20

- A lavish production of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*
- The debut show of CircleOne, our physical theatre ensemble
- Our Year 9 and 10 production in the summer, an ambitious full-length play



Polished performance

We are very lucky to have a Director in Residence with a background in directing outside the school environment, bringing fresh ideas and industry insights to the work we do. Our Sixth Form Drama Scholars receive an enhanced programme of acting tuition from the Director in Residence and develop their directing and leadership skills through our productions programme.

We also arrange visits from theatre companies (including Frantic Assembly and Gecko), specialist workshops and organise regular theatre trips. Furthermore, we run workshops to support anyone interested in auditioning for the National Youth Theatre. In addition, our Speech and Drama coach offers private tuition to pupils preparing for LAMDA exams.