

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 students as we can through open auditions. Acting (on stage and on film) isn't the only area students 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 students 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 students), 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 2019-20

- A festive production of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*
- An edgy double-bill of Caryl Churchill's *Love and Information* and *Jokers*, devised by CircleOne, our group of drama scholars group
- Upper Sixth students' devised piece *Iridescent*, exploring transgender issues

Looking forward to 2020-21

- 'A Night in the Meyer': a series of evening showcases dedicated entirely to Musical Theatre, in our bi-annual collaboration with Music and Dance
- Devised and scripted performances by our GCSE and A level students, as well as our CircleOne and Shortcuts casts
- A full length junior play in the summer term, showcasing the talents of our Year 9 and 10 students



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.