



Northampton International Academy

Drama Curriculum Overview



Why Teach Drama?

At Northampton International Academy the Performing Arts department is the heartbeat of the school. It is an inclusive environment that all our learners can express their creativity and imagination. Performing arts offers Music, Dance and Drama. This will develop well-rounded learners by giving them real life experiences and embedding transferable skills which will enable them to achieve their full potential moving forward both in education and beyond.

There are three core concepts used, **CPR (creating, performing, and responding)** which will enhance our learners' skills and knowledge across all 3 subjects and form the basis of all faculty assessments.

All learners should be enabled to participate in and gain knowledge, skills and understanding associated with the artistic practice of drama. Learners should be able to adopt, create and sustain a range of roles, responding appropriately to others in role. They should have opportunities to improvise, devise and script drama for one another and a range of audiences, as well as to rehearse, refine, share and respond thoughtfully to drama and theatre performances. Drama provides many opportunities for children to use heritage languages and knowledge of a range of cultures to experiment with styles of speaking, gesture and mime. We aim for the Drama curriculum to promote a sense of self-worth, encourage confidence, resilience and develop relationships. Drama and role-play can contribute to the quality of learners' writing by providing opportunities for learners to develop and order their ideas through playing roles and improvising scenes in various settings.

Drama in the primary years

Drama is used as a vehicle in several subjects, and not taught or assessed explicitly in KS1 and KS2. It is then taught as a stand alone subject from KS3 through to KS5.

We can see the curriculum in the following areas for Primary:

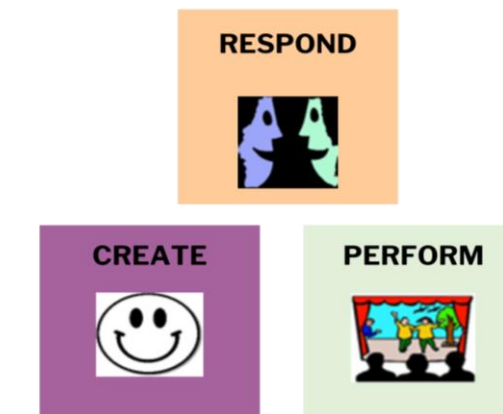
English Curriculum – Speaking, Listening and Drama activities. Music and Dance curriculum- Performance skills. Responding to the work of others. Other subjects that Drama may be present in the curriculum: PSHE, History PSHE curriculum- Exploration of empathy, understanding emotions and relationships.

Drama Curriculum Progression:

From EYFS to Key Stage 5, all topics in the Drama curriculum are designed to broaden learner knowledge in at least one of the following 6 elements of Drama. Dramatic Conventions, style/genre, script, character, audience, and devise. In Key Stage 1 and 2 there are subjects where Drama elements are taught as explicit knowledge in order to embed the fundamental principles and vocabulary needed in future Drama lessons. As the Big Ideas return, throughout their time in the academy, learners will extend both their technical skills and theoretical knowledge across a variety of cultures, genres and contexts. The curriculum will continuously build all the key skills and knowledge needed to access the Key Stage 4 and 5 curriculum. Learners will then apply and be assessed through the 3 strands creating, performing and responding.

Drama Curriculum Big Ideas

Curriculum maps detail the sequencing of substantive knowledge of Drama to enable pupils to build and develop the important concepts over time through our three 'Big Ideas'



Drama involves development of technical and expressive skills which is shown through our 6 Drama elements. These tie in with our 3 core concepts Creating, Performing, and responding across our curriculum. Each scheme of work will incorporate 1 or more of these elements as the learners develop their skills.

