



The Mountbatten School

Drama Department

Additional Information





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The Drama Department is part of the Expressive Arts Faculty, which currently comprises four teachers of Music, four teachers of Art and two teachers of Drama. The department is led by an experienced Head of Drama, supported by a part time (0.8) teacher of Drama.

The Drama Department is well-resourced and housed in specialist accommodation in the Lantern Theatre building. Facilities include a Drama Studio (fully refurbished with new lighting and sound equipment in January 2016), a second dual-purpose Drama & Music Performance Studio and the Lantern Theatre, fully equipped with high quality lighting and sound equipment.

Students in Years 7 and 8 receive one lesson of Drama per week. At the end of Year 8, students undergo a 'mini-options' process, with those opting for Drama receiving two lessons per week in Year 9. Students study a range of projects exploring and developing a number of skills, while also helping them understand a range of themes and issues. Projects are split into two sections, the first teaching skills and the second providing students with an elongated rehearsal period to develop a piece of theatre using the skills covered. This encourages students to immediately hone their independent learning skills.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
7.1 Introduction to Drama	8.1 Physical Theatre	9.1 Text into Performance
7.2 Script – <i>Matthew Come Home</i>	8.2 Melodrama	9.2 Set Text – <i>The 39 Steps</i>
7.3 Devising from text	8.3 Devising Drama	9.3 Devising – <i>Frantic Assembly</i>
7.4 Improvisation	8.4 Texts in Practice	9.4 Practitioner Exploration

In the Upper School, students receive three lessons per week. The Drama Department follows the AQA GCSE Drama specification. Currently, there are two teaching groups in Year 10 and one group in Year 11. Results for the Class of 2018 were outstanding, with 94% of students achieving grades 9 to 4, against the national average of 74.5%.

The Drama Department offers a successful and popular range of exciting extra-curricular opportunities for students, including LAMDA tuition, delivered by an experienced external practitioner.

The annual production has proven extremely popular, with over 100 participants each year. Previous productions include: *Grease*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Mermaid*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Hairspray*. In addition, the department facilitates three Theatre Groups: Musical Theatre club for Years 7 to 9, Year 7 and 8 Drama Club, and an 'Advanced Theatre Group' for gifted and talented students, by invitation.

The annual Drama Festival provides a platform for students to present a variety of work ranging from classrooms projects, clubs, LAMDA classes and independent entries. The Festival is adjudicated by a guest judge, who is invariably amazed by the quality, breadth and intelligence of the work presented.

This is an extremely exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic teacher of Drama seeking to develop their career in a high-achieving school where Expressive Arts are both valued and supported. There is a full induction programme for NQTs and access to high quality CPD for all staff.

We welcome informal enquiries about this post – please contact info@mountbatten.hants.sch.uk

Michael Whiteside, Head of Music & Expressive Arts
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