

EXPRESSIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS FACULTY

Overview

The Expressive and Performing Arts Faculty consists of 12 teachers in the subject areas of Drama, Business, Music and PE. The faculty's key priorities are continuing to improve student achievement through the delivery of challenging and engaging lessons and building upon the large range of extra-curricular opportunities available to our students. The team is committed to the use of assessment and data to improve practice and raise standards.

Subjects within the faculty are popular within the school and currently there are high numbers of students taking our subjects at GCSE and A level with successful outcomes. We run a range of extra-curricular clubs and host several extended learning days and activities during term time. We have strong links with Oxford University Department of Education and a number of our teachers act as mentors to PGCE and newly qualified teachers.

We are looking for an enthusiastic, committed professional with the passion and drive to work with us to move the faculty forward in terms of curriculum provision, quality of teaching and learning and the effective use of data to improve outcomes.

Physical Education

All students study PE/games in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. They experience a high-quality curriculum enabling all pupils to enjoy and succeed in many kinds of physical activities. They develop a wide range of skills and the ability to use tactics, strategies and compositional ideas to perform successfully. When they are performing, they think about what they are doing, analyse the situation and make decisions. They also reflect on their own and others' performances and find ways to improve them. As a result, they develop the confidence to take part in different physical activities and learn about the value of healthy, active lifestyles.

At KS4, students can choose GCSE Physical Education as an option subject. The Full GCSE Physical Education Course by Edexcel is split between theoretical and practical components. Unit 1 counts for 60% of the final grade and is the theory aspect of the course. It is assessed by two exams in May of the final year. Unit 2 is called 'Performance in Physical Education' and requires Three Practical Performances from the student which takes up 40% of the course.

At Key Stage 5 we offer an A-Level in Physical Education. We follow the Edexcel Specification which comprises of Written examination: 2 hours and 30 minutes 40% of the qualification 140 marks Content overview • Topic 1: Applied anatomy and physiology • Topic 2: Exercise physiology and applied movement analysis. Written examination: 2 hours 30% of the qualification 100 marks Content overview • Topic 3: Skill acquisition • Topic 4: Sport psychology • Topic 5: Sport and society. Non-examined assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated 15% of the qualification 40 marks Content overview • Skills performed in one physical activity as a player/performer OR • Skills performed in one physical activity as a coach. Non-examined assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated 15% of the qualification 40 marks Content overview Carrying out and producing the Performance Analysis and PDP may take place over multiple session.

Drama

This is taught throughout key Stage 3. Students are assessed in three areas. The first is devising and rehearsing which tests the skills of group working, co-operation and leadership. The second assessment is performing and this tests skills such as "staying in character", voice projection and use of space on the stage. The third area is that of evaluation, testing the students' ability to analyse and comment on performances which they see. Students are also asked to reflect on their own performance work.

Drama is offered at GCSE following the WJEC specification where students will develop knowledge and understanding of Drama through practical workshops. Component 1: Devising Theatre, Non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated, 40% of qualification. Component 2: Performing from a Text Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner, 20% of qualification. Component 3: Interpreting Theatre Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes, 40% of qualification.

At Key Stage 5 GCE WJEC Drama and Theatre studies is offered. The WJEC Eduqas A level in Drama and Theatre is an exciting and inspiring course which prepares learners for further study in Higher Education. This highly practical specification provides learners with the opportunity to work as either performers and/or designers on three different performances. In Component 1 learners reinterpret a text to create a piece of theatre which is a combination of the selected text and original ideas. In Component 2 learners engage with a stimulus to create two pieces of theatre; one an interpretation of a text of their own choice and the other a devised piece. In Component 3, learners explore two complete performance texts and one extract from a third text. There is an exciting and diverse list of texts to choose from; centres must select one which was written before 1956 and one which was written after 1956.

There are two specialist Drama Studios. Both are equipped with stage lighting, sound and curtains. In the larger of the two, stage blocks can be used in the performance area. There is a costume store and a props/scenery cupboard. For larger performances the Proscenium Arch Stage in Waynflete Hall can be used. This has sound, lighting and curtains and access to a "green room"

Music

The KS3 music curriculum comprises six main musical projects during the course of each academic year, each lasting approximately six weeks. Topics include Mozart, Keyboard trainer, British film music, Reggae, Music in advertising and The Frankenstein project. During each topic students develop their musical skills by listening, performing and composing. Students are assessed at the end of each term and given their attainment level. Students are also assessed by their solo and group performances.

The GCSE course comprises three main elements: performing, composing and the study of set works from several areas of study. This will enable students to develop their theory of music alongside historical study to support their performance in a practical and purposeful way. There are two controlled assessments which take place during the academic year. One is for composition and one is for a solo performance on the student's chosen instrument. Controlled assessments make up 60% of the GCSE exam. Students are expected to develop their composition and performance skills throughout the course. Students are working towards the Edexcel GCSE Music examination which takes place in the final Term of year 11. This takes the form of 1-hour 30-minute examination externally set based around the set works for the unit. In Section A, students respond to questions based on recorded extracts of set works. In Section B, students answer a more in-depth question on a chosen set work(s) and are assessed on Quality of Written Communication.

At Key Stage 5 we offer Edexcel GCE in Music. The students are assessed in composing, performing and written external examinations. Component 1: Performing, This is a Non-examined assessment: externally assessed 30% of the qualification. Component 2: Composing, This is a Non-examined assessment: externally assessed 30% of the qualification. Component 3: Appraising.

We run an extensive extra-curricular program open to all students including Jazz Band and Chapel Choir. We also offer peripatetic music lessons via the Northamptonshire Music Service.

Business Studies

Business studies is a popular and successful subject in the school which is taught at gcse and A-Level along with Economics at A-level.

The aims and objectives of the GCSE qualification are to enable students to know and understand business concepts, business terminology, business objectives, the integrated nature of business activity and the impact of business on individuals and wider society. To apply knowledge and understanding to contemporary business issues of different types and sizes of businesses in local, national and global contexts. To develop as enterprising individuals with the ability to think commercially and creatively to

demonstrate business acumen, and draw on evidence to make informed business decisions and solve business problems

There are two units, with the emphasis on examination work. Investigating small Business and Building a Business will have equal weightings in the overall award.

100% Examination based - Edexcel

50% Theme 1: Investigating small business

50% Theme 2: Building a business

At A-level Students are working towards the AQA A level in Business Studies. Year 1 of the course comprises six modules:

- What is business?
- Managers, leadership and decision making
- Decision making to improve marketing performance
- Decision making to improve operational performance
- Decision making to improve financial performance
- Decision making to improve human resource performance

Year 2 of the course comprises four modules:

- Analysing the strategic position of a business
- Choosing strategic direction
- Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- Managing strategic change

At A level we also offer Economics and the course is made up of three mandatory components, focusing on microeconomics, macroeconomics and themes in economics, with the latter offering an exciting opportunity for students to apply theories and concepts to up-to-date contexts.

The OCR A Level in Economics content encourages the students to 'think as economists' and develop the appropriate range of analytical, questioning and reasoning skills to achieve this objective. In addition the qualification will enable students to develop strong grounding in both microeconomics and macroeconomics, drawing on local, national and global contexts.

Students will understand microeconomic and macroeconomic market models and will be able to use these to explore current economic behaviours and make causal connections. They will be able to develop an understanding of how the models shed light on the economy as a whole. The qualification also encourages students to apply the concepts and techniques which they have learned throughout the course to a range of 'real world' issues and contexts. In particular, Themes in economics (component 3) draws together both microeconomic and macroeconomic concepts in relation to a specific unseen theme.

The subject maintains strong links with local companies and has enjoyed the input from Businesses in the form of lectures and seminars.