

**PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT**

**DEPARTMENT OF DRAMA**

# Subject Leader: Mr Joe Burston

This is a dynamic team who have developed exciting approaches to drama throughout the curriculum. We expect and receive very high standards of both written work and performance from all students across the ability range.

We are in the enviable position to offer new and challenging arts courses including: GCE Drama and Theatre (Edexcel), GCSE Drama (AQA) and the Bronze Arts Award (Trinity). Students make their option choices in Year 8 allowing for a three year GCSE programme.

At Key Stage 3 all students have one hour of Drama per week. Drama has its own specialist drama studio with lighting and sound; there are also two other dedicated drama rooms. At Key Stage 4 students have two hours of Drama a week and at Key Stage 5 students have five hours a week.

Extra-curricular activities are an integral element of this department area. Lower school clubs run at least once a week. These are extremely popular and are enthusiastically attended. Past and current projects have included: Year 7 drama and music clubs presenting work at a community carol concert and the Year 7 and 8 Drama clubs performing plays to parents and friends in the drama studio. Performing Arts evenings, showcasing work from all clubs, are also a regular feature of the school calendar. The school has achieved Gold Artsmark in recognition of the school’s commitment to the arts.

There is a whole school musical production every year, which attracts overwhelming support. Our latest productions have included: Grease, We Will Rock You, High School Musical Jr, Honk!, Guys and Dolls, Bugsy Malone, Oklahoma!, Annie, Oliver!, and The Wizard of Oz. They are a great success and enthusiastically attended by parents, students and governors. The shows draw on the expertise of most departments in the school and involve over 120 students and many staff. In the summer term there is a school play which is performed in the drama studio and recent productions include: Abi Morgan's Fugee and Shakespeare's Macbeth. This year we look forward to performing A Midsummer Night's Dream.

We work closely together with the music, dance and art departments and support each other in promoting the arts.

**MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

**Subject Leader: Mr Karl Bunton**

The department consists of two enthusiastic full time teachers. The department also has a dedicated Curriculum Support Officer who undertakes administrative tasks; the co-ordination of individual instrumental music lessons; supporting productions and the covering of lessons in the absence of teachers.

There is an instrumental music service run partly in conjunction with the London Borough of Sutton and offered to all students. This includes lessons by peripatetic instrumental teachers in woodwind, guitar, keyboard, drums, brass, strings and singing.

The department is situated in the Performing Arts building. Music teaching is housed in a suite of rooms which comprises of two music teaching rooms, each with an interactive whiteboard and three instrumental teaching rooms and a recording studio.

The music rooms have been equipped with specialist keyboard suites supported by a wide range of equipment including Kenwood Hi-fi systems in each classroom, three electric pianos as well as three upright and one grand piano. The fully equipped recording studio includes a Yamaha mixing desk and a mac running Logic with some high specification desktops running Cubase software in the ICT suite. The department also has a fifteen user licence for Sibelius and all year 10 and 11 students have a noteflight account in order to complete their composition coursework.

Music is taught to all students at KS3 for one hour each week and it is a popular option subject. GCSE music is taught in Years 9 – 11. At Post 16 BTEC Level 3 music and music technology are taught.

Music makes a major contribution to school events such as the annual production, prize giving, concerts and end of term assemblies. The school production involves a wide range of students and the music staff work closely with the other Performing Arts subjects. There is high level of interest from the students and their commitment is excellent.

A range of extra-curricular activities take place including vocal and instrumental groups. These clubs are extremely popular. There are a number of concerts featuring both the GCSE and Level 3 BTEC groups throughout the year and ‘Battle of the Bands’ is a treat!