

Department

The Dance department has recently been through a very exciting period of change, as we have moved from delivering GCSE Dance to the RSL Level 2 Certificate in Performing Arts, Dance pathway. Although a bold move, it has been incredibly successful with the majority of students achieving the highest grades. This is a relatively new course that is designed to give teachers the freedom to develop a bespoke curriculum around the skills and interests of the students, whilst preparing them for the demands of further study and careers within the Arts. The department benefits from a purpose built studio, which doubles up as a performance space, with a sound system, projector and its own stage lighting.

The Drama department is highly successful at all levels maintaining outstanding examination results for over 15 years. The department has been recognised in the Good Schools Guide for attainment of boys at A Level and is recognised as a Centre of Excellence. The department benefits from 2 purpose built studios, which double up as performance spaces, as well as the school hall, which is used for productions and examination work. All rooms have specialist lighting and sound equipment.

The Dance and Drama departments operate within the Performing Arts Faculty along with Music and PE. The Performing Arts Faculty offers a personalised and varied curriculum and is fully inclusive to all students, developing skills within the individual subjects, as well as transferable skills to prepare students to be active and responsible members of the community.

Dance Curriculum

Dance is taught throughout key stage 3 and 4 at Arthur Terry.

Key Stage 3

At KS3, Dance is delivered by the PE staff as part of the PE curriculum. Tailor made schemes of work have been implemented to enable PE specialists to deliver Dance with confidence. Schemes of work include cultural fusion, exploration of gang culture and choreographic skill development.

Key Stage 4

Students who opt to study Dance at Level 2, will follow the RSL Certificate in Performing Arts (Dance), across a 3 year KS4.

The first year program (Year 9) is designed to teach choreographic and compositional skills, develop technique and promote collaboration, communication and empathy.

In the second year of study (Year 10) students will continue to develop the skills taught in year 9 and will complete the Choreography and Dance Technique and Performance units.

In the final year of study (Year 11) students will complete the Ensemble Performance unit and the Live Performance unit, which is externally set and examined.

It is expected that theoretical components are taught throughout all practical lessons in each year of study, with some dedicated time in classrooms to ensure the coursework elements of each unit are completed to a high standard.

The successful candidate must have experience teaching GCSE, BTEC or RSL Dance.

Drama Curriculum

Drama is taught across all key stages.

Key Stage 3

Students receive an hour per week of Drama. They are taught the skills and techniques required for success at GCSE level, which form the basis of all work the students complete. The curriculum provides opportunities for Drama specific learning such as Greek Theatre and for PSHE development such as The Civil Rights Movement.

Key Stage 4

Drama is highly a successful and popular subject at GCSE. The year 9 curriculum is designed to develop the skills and technique taught at KS3 and to embed the performance discipline required for success at Year 10 and Year 11. In Year 10 students will complete a devised examination, begin actor training and character development through the use of Stanislavski's Psycho-System, understanding texts and the application of skills and techniques to a text. In Year 11 students will complete a scripted examination and a written examination. Theory is delivered throughout the 3 year program of study.

Key Stage 5

Drama and Theatre Studies is a popular A level choice. The specification at KS5 is Edexcel, The course is the full 2 year A Level. Over the 2 years students will complete a devised examination based upon a specific practitioner, a monologue exam, a scripted exam and a written examination, which comprises of a response to a live performance, their understanding as a performer and a technician for The Accidental Death of an Anarchist and their understanding as a director for Antigone in the style of Bertolt Brecht.

The successful candidate must have the capacity to teach / learn KS3 Drama.

Extra Curricular

The extra curricular program within the Performing Arts faculty in all subject areas underpins all aspects of the curriculum. The skills required for success are embedded to enhance development of all students who participate in extra-curricular activities.

The Performing Arts Faculty is highly regarded for the standard of whole school productions, which provides a pinnacle event in the school calendar. It provides opportunities for students to develop skills in Dance, Drama and Music.

KS3 Dance club provides opportunities for students to develop their skills as a performer. The club is essential for attracting student to opt for RSL Dance at KS4.

In the summer term the Dance club joins with Drama and Music for the KS3 summer production.

KS3 Drama club currently puts on 2 performances per year; a Christmas themed event that takes place in the atrium and a KS3 production.

The successful candidate will be expected to lead KS3 Dance Club, support KS3 Drama club and support any additional performance opportunities within Performing Arts as they arise throughout the year.