

Subject: Performing Arts (Dance/Drama) Year 7 Curriculum Map 2024-2025

	Topics covered and core knowledge and skills	Links to careers	Resources Links
Half term 3	<p>Year 7 Drama will introduce pupils to Verbatim Theatre, a powerful form of documentary drama that uses real words from interviews, speeches, and testimonies to create performances rooted in truth. Pupils will explore how Verbatim Theatre can amplify real stories, give voice to underrepresented groups, and encourage empathy and understanding. Through practical activities, they will develop skills in research, devising, and performance, culminating in the creation of their own Verbatim Theatre pieces.</p> <p>The unit begins with an introduction to the principles and purpose of Verbatim Theatre. Pupils will examine its emphasis on authenticity and truth-telling and explore examples of influential works, such as <i>The Laramie Project</i> or <i>My Name Is Rachel Corrie</i>. They will discuss how Verbatim Theatre reflects real experiences and addresses social and cultural issues.</p> <p>Key activities will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding Verbatim Theatre: Pupils will analyse excerpts from notable Verbatim Theatre performances, focusing on how real words are transformed into compelling drama. They will explore techniques such as minimal staging, direct address, and the use of multi-role acting. 	<p>For careers, click here</p>	<p>Knowledge Organiser</p>
Half term 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and Gathering Testimonies: Pupils will learn how to conduct interviews and gather testimonies from friends, family, or news sources. They will discuss the importance of ethical considerations, accuracy, and respect when working with real stories. • Editing and Structuring Material: Pupils will practise editing interview transcripts to identify key themes, emotions, and conflicts. They will learn how to shape these into a coherent dramatic narrative. • Developing Characters: Using drama techniques such as role-on-the-wall and hot-seating, pupils will explore how to portray real people sensitively and authentically. They will focus on voice, gesture, and emotion to bring their characters to life. • Devising Verbatim Pieces: Working in groups, pupils will devise and rehearse short Verbatim Theatre scenes, using the testimonies they have gathered. They will explore how to create engaging and thought-provoking performances that remain true to the source material. <p>The scheme will culminate in a performance of the devised pieces, with pupils presenting their work to an audience. This will be followed by a reflective discussion on the challenges and rewards of creating Verbatim Theatre, as well as the impact of their performances.</p> <p>By the end of the scheme, pupils will have developed an understanding of the power of Verbatim Theatre to tell real stories and spark meaningful conversations. They will have enhanced their skills in research, characterisation, and performance while fostering empathy and respect for others' experiences. This unit will encourage pupils to appreciate the potential of theatre as a tool for truth, connection, and change.</p>	<p>For careers, click here</p>	<p>Knowledge Organiser</p>