

Subject: Performing Arts (Drama/Dance) Year 9 Curriculum Map 2024-2025

	Topics covered and core knowledge and skills	Links to careers	Resources Links
Half term 3	<p>Year 9 sees students being introduced to the life, works, and enduring legacy of William Shakespeare, with a central focus on Romeo and Juliet. Pupils will explore Shakespeare's historical and cultural context, his diverse body of work—including his comedies, tragedies, and histories—and the dramatic conventions that have made his plays timeless.</p> <p>The unit begins with an introduction to Shakespeare's life and era, touching on the societal influences that shaped his writing. Pupils will gain an overview of his key works, understanding the distinctions between genres such as drama, tragedy, comedy, and history. They will also be introduced to iambic pentameter, analysing its rhythmic structure and learning to perform sections of text with an appreciation of its poetic flow.</p> <p>The primary focus of the unit will be Romeo and Juliet. Pupils will explore the play's central themes—love, violence, conflict, loyalty, and fate—and discuss how these resonate with modern society. Through close reading and practical workshops, they will examine Shakespeare's use of language, including wordplay, metaphor, and dramatic irony, to bring the story and its characters to life.</p>	For careers, click here	Knowledge Organiser
Half term 4	<p>Key activities will include:</p> <p>Characterisation: Pupils will delve into the motivations, emotions key characters such as Romeo, Juliet, Tybalt, and Mercutio. They will experiment with different ways of portraying these characters through voice, movement, and staging.</p> <p>Violence and Conflict: Pupils will study the physical and verbal conflicts in the play, analysing their dramatic impact and exploring ways to stage fight scenes safely and effectively.</p> <p>Themes and Modern Connections: Through discussion and improvisation, pupils will explore how the play's themes of forbidden love, family loyalty, and societal conflict reflect contemporary issues.</p> <p>Performance Skills: Pupils will rehearse and perform selected scenes, focusing on interpretation, delivery, and emotional expression, with particular attention to the rhythm and meaning of Shakespeare's language.</p> <p>The scheme will culminate in a performance or presentation of key scenes from Romeo and Juliet, allowing pupils to showcase their understanding of the play's themes, characters, and dramatic techniques.</p> <p>By the end of the scheme, pupils will have gained a deeper appreciation of Shakespeare's work, developed their performance and analytical skills, and built confidence in interpreting complex texts. They will leave with a greater understanding of how Romeo and Juliet continues to resonate with audiences</p>	For careers, click here	Knowledge Organiser

	today, offering timeless insights into human relationships and societal challenges.		
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