

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 5	<p>Year 7 Dance and Drama: Musical Theatre</p> <p>In Year 7, we will explore the exciting world of Musical Theatre, introducing pupils to one of the most dynamic and expressive forms of performance. Pupils will develop an understanding of how music, movement, and storytelling combine to create powerful and engaging theatrical experiences. Through practical activities, they will learn the foundations of musical theatre, including character work, choreography, and vocal expression.</p> <p>The unit begins with an introduction to the history and development of musical theatre, from its roots in vaudeville and opera to modern-day Broadway and West End productions. Pupils will explore the elements that make musical theatre unique, including the integration of song, dance, and dialogue to tell a story and convey emotion.</p> <p>Key activities will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Musical Theatre Styles: Pupils will study a range of musical theatre genres—from classic shows like <i>The Sound of Music</i> and <i>Oliver!</i> to more contemporary pieces like <i>Matilda</i> and <i>Hamilton</i>. They will examine how different styles influence performance choices. • Song and Scene Work: Pupils will learn to perform short scenes and songs from well-known musicals, focusing on characterisation, timing, and the connection between lyrics and story. They will also practise vocal techniques to improve clarity and projection. • Dance for the Stage: Pupils will explore basic musical theatre choreography, building confidence in movement and learning how dance is used to enhance storytelling. They will work on coordination, rhythm, and expression through group routines. • Character and Emotion through Song: Using techniques such as hot-seating and script analysis, pupils will explore how to portray emotion and character through song. They will consider how vocal tone, facial expression, and body language contribute to a believable performance. • Ensemble Work and Staging: Pupils will learn to work as part of an ensemble, understanding the importance of stage presence, teamwork, and spatial awareness in large group numbers. They will also experiment with staging and blocking for musical scenes. <p>The scheme will culminate in a mini musical performance, where pupils showcase a short piece or montage from a musical. This may include acting, singing, and dancing, either as soloists or in small groups. The performance will be shared with peers or families, offering pupils the opportunity to experience performing in front of an audience.</p> <p>By the end of the unit, pupils will have gained confidence in performing, singing, and moving as part of a musical theatre ensemble. They will have a foundational understanding of the key elements of musical theatre and an appreciation for the energy, collaboration, and creativity involved in this vibrant art form. The scheme aims to build not only performance skills but also self-expression, teamwork, and a lifelong appreciation for the performing arts.</p>	For careers, click here	Knowledge Organiser
Half term 6		For careers, click here	Knowledge Organiser