

Year 8 – Autumn

Term	Autumn Term
Topic	Physical Theatre Autumn Term 1 - Alice in Wonderland Autumn Term 2 - The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night time
Big Question	<u>How can we convey meaning in performance through physical embodiment?</u>
Concepts	Physical Theatre Characterisation Concentration Storytelling Guided Tour Ensemble Essence Machine
Knowledge	<i>Recap: Why is a strong characterisation important in performance? How can we achieve realistic characterisation in performance?</i>
Skills	New knowledge: How to present narrative and strong characters through physical embodiment. How we can use our bodies and work collaboratively in an abstract way to tell a story. How we can layer characterisation with music and stylised movement to enhance the narrative and make this more engaging for the audience. Develop ability to create a character persona of an inanimate object. Develop ability to explore creative imagination to shape original and authentic portrayals of a narrative. Develop success when blocking movement in rehearsal and layering different elements of performance to add depth to the narrative. Develop communication skills when working as a team to listen, share and advise with peers.
Common Misconceptions	To be a professional performer, you have to be able to read and project lines confidently in order to deliver a successful narrative. A performance is simply telling the story of the characters through dialogue and speech.
Key Vocabulary	Characterisation Essence Machine Stimulus Narrative Embodiment Physical Embodiment Expression Gestures Vocality Script work
Assessment Points	Regular peer and self-reflection when watching the work of others Consistent verbal feedback offered by the teacher on small scenes created in class. <u>Mid unit:</u> Written reflective questions in booklet based on performance created Small performance of Alice and Wonderland focusing on characterisation and development of narrative. Students will base their one scene performance on the Mad Hatter's Tea Party and will focus on building gestures and <u>End of Unit:</u> Final performance of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time. Students will create 3-5 developed scenes based on the skills we have looked at in class. This will combine characterisation, narrative and gestures (as looked at in Autumn Term 1) with physical embodiment and abstract interpretation currently studied. Students will be graded in their assessment booklets, with green and pink highlighting and a star and a wish.

<p>Diversity, Inclusion and Personal Development</p>	<p>Alice in Wonderland explores the fictional tale in Wonderland, where Alice meets a range of characters along her journey. Students are able to explore characters through real life examples and representation. There are a range of characters, some taking larger roles and some smaller, with students able to be drawn to the character that suits them best. For example, quieter students may prefer to play the mouse.</p> <p>In the Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time, Christopher has Autism; students explore the complexities and challenges of this and can work together to appreciate the additional struggles young people like Christopher have, and how this can also be a strength. Students recognise the need to empower students with additional needs, and are invited to reflect on their own experiences and knowledge of how Autism can help to shape a life. This is then conveyed in performance.</p>
<p>How parents can be of support</p>	<p>Discussions with pupils on what skills have been explored in lessons.</p> <p>Research and discussions about additional needs and challenges that some young people face</p> <p>Testing knowledge of key words in the glossary in the assessment booklet to ensure pupils know what they are and why they are used in theatre.</p>
<p>Extra Curricular Links – further/wider reading, TV or film, useful websites etc.</p>	<p><i>Students / parents could do the following to help skills in this unit:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research into Autism and look at the challenges people may face • Watch Alice in Wonderland and discuss different characters • Watch YouTube clips of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time live on stage https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MGb1myo6ktQ • Listen to the music soundtrack from the stage adaptation on YouTube • Watch the trailer https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVrOsXhG61Q and discuss features of performance and physical theatre skills