

Drama

An example of how Drama contributes to Personal Development is through the teaching of character and text. In year 7 students are exposed to the themes of mental health and moral dilemmas, and mental and emotional health through the study of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. The moral dilemmas of bullying, the effects of bullying and family life through exploration of play texts (terrible fate of Humpty Dumpty) They are also taught to manage risk and protect their own personal safety. In year 8, students study a devised thematic topic on abandonment of a baby. This allows students to explore the characteristics of positive and negative relationships, parenting skills, the concept of consent and other core themes relating to relationships. The study of *Blood Brothers* as a set text at GCSE allows students to explore marriage, family life, unplanned pregnancies and effects. Students gain a wider understanding of the class system in the UK and historical aspects of politics and society.

We promote equality and diversity in Drama by ensuring that the Drama curriculum is richly diverse and multi-cultural. In year 9, students study the West End Hit musical, 'Everybody's talking about Jamie'. The play explores relevant issues such as identity, gender, race, religion, bullying and hopes and dreams. They also learn about the impact of any prejudice or stereotyping. The play explores the tensions between human rights and cultural expectations and practices. Students are also encouraged to understand and recognise the benefits of being ambitious and enterprising in the modern world.