

Wednesfield Academy

Curriculum Overview (2023-2024)

Performing Arts (Drama & Dance)

Curriculum Intent: The focus of the performing arts curriculum at Wednesfield Academy is to develop and inspire pupils' viewpoints, to widen their opportunities as young people. We aim to develop confidence, communication, and social skills in pupils through creativity. We can achieve this by ensuring a safe space where pupils enjoy and take pride in their learning which allows them to build foundations for future career pathways and success, no matter what they choose to do. The teaching staff supports pupil's creative intentions and offer opportunities for students to showcase their work.

Curriculum Rationale: The curriculum follows a structure of building on prior knowledge in a variety of specialisms including drama, dance and musical theatre which ensures that the pupils have rich and varied opportunities at Key Stage 3. This will then prepare the students when they choose their GCSE Level options. At Level 3 we currently offer Drama and Dance at BTEC where students will complete two mandatory units set by the exam board and two units chosen by the teacher where students will gain advanced knowledge of the requirements of a theatre production and a variety of acting styles.

Year Group	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
7	Introducing Drama	Introducing Dance	<u>Titanic – Drama Techniques</u>	Dance - Avengers	Learning professional repertoire	
	Vocal, Physical and	Introduction to basic skills	Students will investigate the	Students will portray characters	Students will have the option to learn three types of	
	characterisation skills looking at	learning the five basic dance	importance of social, historical,	using a variety of dance skills	professional repertoire, 'Stomp' by Luke Cresswell 'Our Day	
	context, scene and stories	actions and explore ways to	and cultural context of	and techniques. They will	Out' by Willy Russell to develop their creativity with	
	through Matilda, The Witches	develop movement	performances whilst looking at	develop knowledge from	Performing Arts.	
	and Charlie and the Chocolate		how to apply key drama	Autumn 2 to choreograph their		
	Factory		techniques.	own performances based on		
				characters		
8	History of Dance	<u>History of Theatre</u>	In the headlines/Diversity	Orion and The Dark	T.I.E (Theatre in Education)	
	Students will gain a foundation of	Students will gain a foundation of	Students will understand the	Students will investigate a film	Students explore how theatre serves as a powerful tool for	
	understanding about the	understanding about the	purpose/aim of a variety of	that explores several themes	education and social commentary. Through analysis, skill	
	beginnings of dance looking at a	beginnings of theatre looking at a	performances focusing on the	such as facing your fears,	development, and collaboration, students will create their own	
	variety of stylistic features	variety of stylistic features	dance group Diversity. They will	bullying and Good Vs Bad. They	performances, embodying the ethos that performing arts can	
	through practical and theoretical	through practical and theoretical	explore why performances have	will develop knowledge and	inform and inspire change.	
	exploration.	exploration.	been created.	understanding through drama		
9	Practitioner and Style	Reviewing Live Theatre	Physical Theatre	Techniques and Skills. Improvisation and	Posnonding	to a brief
9	Students will look at two	Students will understand the key	Students will look at physical	choreography	Responding to a brief	
	adaptations of the classic story	elements and responsibilities of	theatre practitioners such as	Students will explore different	Students will be undertaking a version of Component 3 at BTEC level 2 to understand key roles and responsibilities, how to	
	Alice in Wonderland and Mad	various members of a theatre.	Frantic Assembly and how they	types of stimuli and understand	choreography or devise, the processes used and rehearsal logs.	
	Hatter's Tea Party and review live	Students will then watch a live	represent stories using their	the choreographic processes	choreography or devise, the proc	esses used and renearsariogs.
	theatre whilst also understanding	performance looking at specific	bodies and effects. Students	used in performance including		
	it practically through workshops.	points to understand purpose	will explore these techniques	how to develop ideas and a		
	a processiny since grown consense per	and creative intention.	practically when working as an	routine from a stimulus.		
			ensemble.			
10	<u>Devising Theatre</u>	Component 1 Mock	Component 1: Devising a piece of theatre.		Component 3 preparation	Component 2 Mock
(GCSE Drama)	Students will be given workshops	Students will now undertake a	Students will undertake and create their own piece of theatre		Students will look at key	Students will explore key
	understanding key techniques	mock exam of component 1 –	based on a stimulus provided by the exam board. Students can be		elements including looking at a	techniques required to
	used in devising theatre.	devising theatre	a performer or designer for the exam		text and reviewing live theatre.	perform/design from a text.



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11 – 2023/24	Component 2: Developing skills and techniques within Performing Arts	Component 3: Responding to a brief	<u>f.</u>	
(Level 2 BTEC	Learners will develop their performing arts skills and techniques	Learners will be given the opportunity to work as part of a group	to contribute to a workshop	
Performing	through the reproduction of acting, dance and/or musical theatre	performance as either a performer or a designer in respons	e to a brief and stimulus.	
Arts)	repertoire as performers or designers.			
11 – 2024/25	Component 2: Exam	Component 3: Written Exam		
(GCSE Drama)	Students will undertake their performing from a text exam visited by	Students will undertake an exam in May/June and will be preparing for this within lessons looking		
	an external examiner	specifically at a text and key decisions in how you would direct, design, or perform within it and a live		
		theatre review.		
12	<u>Unit 2 – Developing skills and techniques for live performance.</u>	<u>Unit 19 – Acting Styles</u>	<u>Unit 1 Investigating Practitioners' Work</u> – External assessment	
(Level 3 BTEC	Students explore technical performance skills with a focus on	This unit will introduce students to the basic differences of a range	Learners investigate the work of performing arts practitioners	
Drama)	developing skills and techniques in at least two performance styles.	of styles of theatre and the approaches of theatre practitioners.	and develop critical analysis skills.	
13	Unit 1 Investigating Practitioners' Work – External assessment	<u>Unit 3 – Group Workshop Performance</u> – External Assessment		
(Level 3 BTEC	Students investigate the work of performing arts practitioners and	Students explore and integrate creative, physical, and vocal skills		
Drama)	develop critical analysis skills and contextual understanding of how	and techniques, working collaboratively to create a performance in		
	practitioners communicate themes in their work.	response to a given stimulus.		