



SUPPORTING CAREERS EDUCATION IN DRAMA

Studying drama can provide a wide range of benefits and develop universal skills that are applicable to various careers. While drama is often associated with the performing arts, the skills cultivated through the study of drama are transferable to many professional fields. Each Drama unit is taught as a project-based unit which culminates in a group performance and each unit develops these universal skills. Here are some ways in which studying drama can help prepare you for any career:

1. **Communication Skills:**

- **Verbal Communication:** Drama education emphasizes effective verbal communication, helping pupils articulate their thoughts clearly and confidently.
- **Non-Verbal Communication:** Understanding body language, facial expressions, and gestures is crucial in drama, and these skills are valuable in any professional setting.

2. **Teamwork and Collaboration:**

- Drama often involves group projects and performances, fostering teamwork and collaboration. These skills are essential in almost every workplace where individuals need to work together to achieve common goals.

3. **Creativity and Problem-Solving:**

- Drama encourages creative thinking and the ability to approach problems from different perspectives. This creativity can be applied to finding innovative solutions in various professional contexts.

4. **Adaptability and Flexibility:**

- Improvisation, a key component of drama, teaches individuals to think on their feet and adapt to unexpected situations. This skill is valuable in dynamic work environments that require quick thinking and adaptability.

5. **Empathy and Emotional Intelligence:**

- Acting often involves understanding and portraying different characters with diverse perspectives and emotions. This helps develop empathy and emotional intelligence, which are valuable in interpersonal relationships and leadership roles.

6. **Confidence and Presentation Skills:**

- Drama provides opportunities for individuals to overcome stage fright and build confidence in public speaking. This is beneficial for presentations, client meetings, and other situations where effective communication is essential.

7. **Critical Thinking and Analysis:**

- Studying scripts, analysing characters, and understanding the context of a play all contribute to the development of critical thinking skills. These skills are valuable for problem-solving and decision-making in various professional settings.

8. Time Management and Discipline:

- Rehearsing for performances requires time management and discipline. These skills are transferable to the workplace, where meeting deadlines and managing time efficiently are crucial.

9. Cultural Awareness and Diversity:

- Drama often involves exploring different cultures, time periods, and perspectives. This exposure enhances cultural awareness and sensitivity, which is valuable in today's globalized and diverse workplaces.

10. Resilience and Perseverance:

- Facing challenges, criticism, and the pressure of live performances in drama helps build resilience and perseverance, qualities that are valuable in any career where setbacks and challenges are inevitable.

In summary, studying drama goes beyond the stage and can equip individuals with a versatile skill set that is applicable in various professional fields. The ability to communicate effectively, work collaboratively, think creatively, and navigate diverse situations are attributes that make drama education a valuable asset in preparing for a wide range of careers.

| Y7 Units | Career Focus |
|---|---|
| Drama Skills | Teamwork and Collaboration Confidence and Presentation Skills |
| Theatre History | Archivist or Museum Curator: Specialise in preserving and presenting theatrical artefacts in museums or archives, bringing history to life for future generations. |
| Musical Theatre | Musical Theatre Performer: Specialise in musical theatre performances, showcasing skills in singing, dancing, and acting. This may involve roles in classic or contemporary musicals. |
| Y8 Units | Career Focus |
| Performance Skills | Communication Skills Teamwork and Collaboration Confidence and Presentation Skills |
| Cinderella the Pantomime | Entertainment Manager: Work with performers, booking agents, and venues to coordinate entertainment events, including musical theatre productions and pantomimes. |
| A Midsummer Night's Dream: The Mechanicals | Copywriter or Editor for Theatre Publications: Utilise your understanding of Shakespeare to become a copywriter or editor for theatre publications, contributing to the creation of engaging content for theatre enthusiasts. |
| Y9 Units | Career Focus |
| Ancient Greek Theatre Physical Theatre | Confidence and Presentation Skills Time Management and Discipline Teamwork and Collaboration Movement and Wellness Coach: specialise in Physical Theatre to become a movement and wellness coach, integrating drama techniques for physical and mental well-being in fitness and healthcare settings. Cultural Programme Coordinator: Combine your insights into Ancient Greek Theatre with organisational skills to become a cultural programme coordinator, planning events that celebrate and showcase diverse cultural performances. |

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| Noughts and Crosses | Cultural Awareness and Diversity Empathy and Emotional Intelligence Film or TV Script Consultant: Apply your skills in Scripted Drama to become a script consultant for film or television, offering expertise in dialogue, character development, and storytelling. Drama-based Therapist in Healthcare: Merge your passion for drama with healthcare by becoming a drama-based therapist, using expressive arts to aid in healing and therapeutic interventions. Playwright |
| Theatre Makers | Critical Thinking and Analysis Teamwork and Collaboration Highlight a variety of career paths within the industry, including acting, directing, production, stage management, and designer roles (sound, lighting or costume, hair and make-up). Historical Researcher |
| MAD project | Theatre Marketing Specialist: Specialise in marketing for the arts by becoming a theatre marketing specialist, promoting productions and engaging with audiences to enhance the cultural impact of theatrical events. |
| Drama GCSE Units | Career Focus |
| Component 1 Devising | Human Resources Manager: Skills in team building, conflict resolution, and fostering a positive work culture are crucial in human resources. Public Relations Specialist: Crafting and delivering messages effectively, as well as dealing with diverse audiences, are key skills in public relations. Media and Broadcasting Content Producer: The ability to generate and develop creative content is valuable in the media industry, whether in television, radio, or online platforms. Therapy and Counselling: Understanding the therapeutic aspects of drama can lead to a career in drama therapy, using drama techniques for healing and personal development |
| Component 2 | Share success stories of past pupils who have pursued successful careers in drama to inspire and motivate current pupils. Actor/Actress: Pursue a career in acting for film, television, or theatre, taking on scripted roles in various productions. Stage Manager: Coordinate and manage the logistics of theatrical productions, ensuring smooth performances and handling backstage operations. Director: Oversee the creative aspects of productions, guiding actors and other staff to bring a scripted play to life. Casting Director: Select actors for specific roles in productions, utilizing an understanding of performance skills and character suitability. Speech Coach: Assist individuals in improving their public speaking and communication skills, which can be valuable in various professions Voiceover Artist: Provide voices for animated characters, commercials, audiobooks, and other projects in the media industry. |
| Component 3 | Theatre Critic: Turn your passion for watching and reviewing live theatre into a career by becoming a professional theatre critic, sharing insights and critiques through written or spoken reviews. Arts Journalist: Report on and analyse cultural events, including live theatre performances, for newspapers, magazines, online publications, or broadcast media. |

To inspire pupils to want to pursue a career in the Arts or Creative Industries, and enhance their cultural capital, the department offers the following activities/trips.

| Activity/Trip | Career Focus |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Year 7 and 8 Act Up Drama Club | Explore communication, collaboration and teamwork skills in a fun environment. Develop confidence |
| Theatre Trips | Cultural experience Develop awareness of career opportunities in the creative industries |
| Primary Workshops | Develop leadership skills alongside presentation skills |
| College Performances | Outline the various educational pathways available, such as pursuing a degree in drama, theatre, performing arts, or related fields. Provide information on reputable colleges, universities, and training programs for pupils interested in furthering their education. Facilitate links with further education providers by shared performance and workshops. |
| Stage Combat Workshop | Meet an industry professional and get an insight into further roles in the creative industries |

Useful Links for Careers

bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/performing-arts

icould.com/explore/categories/subject/drama-and-theatre-studies

targetcareers.co.uk/career-sectors/arts-and-creative

prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors/creative-arts-and-design

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors/subject/dance>

<https://discovercreative.careers/pupils-and-parents/what-are-the-creative-industries/>