

Hilbre High School

Drama

Transition pack





Drama at Hilbre



Welcome year 6 to Drama at Hilbre High School. We are excited for you to come to our school and begin evolving



yourself in our subject. Drama may be a subject some of you may have never done before or something you may have been involved in out of school. Either way, we have made you this pack to immerse yourself with some of the key knowledge you will develop in your drama lessons and across your school career at Hilbre. We are extremely excited to meet you and cannot wait for you to get involved in everything we do at Hilbre.

Below is an overview of the different topics you will be exploring next year in your drama lessons at Year 7.

Key Stage 3

Year 7

<u>Autumn 1</u>	<u>Autumn 2</u>	<u>Spring 1</u>	<u>Spring 2</u>	<u>Summer 1</u>	<u>Summer 2</u>
DEvised Physical theatre – linked to a text (exploring storytelling and atmosphere)	SCRIPT Melodrama and Pantomime – links to theatre design	DEvised Slapstick and Silent Movie	DEvised WW 2 Evacuation linked to Goodnight Mr Tom	Summer Exams – Revision and exam prep	SCRIPT 'Romeo and Juliet'

In this pack you will.....

- Learn Drama vocabulary and be able to identify drama key words and their meanings.
- Understand the difference of a Film and Live theatre.
- What is acting and what is drama in school
- Learn theatre vocabulary and pick out the key phrases
- Understand what improvisation is and attempt your own

<u>Mime</u>	An action without words
<u>Melodrama</u>	An exaggerated, over the top acting style
<u>Still Image</u>	An action frozen in time
<u>Posture</u>	The way an actor stands to show their character-(e.g: standing upright to convey confidence)
<u>Body Language</u>	An actor uses their body language to express how their character is feeling
<u>Facial expressions</u>	An actor alters their facial features to show how they are feeling (e.g: an open mouth with wide eyes to look shocked)

Drama Vocabulary

Use of Voice

<u>Accent</u>	Using your voice to convey a region/country where a character is from
<u>Tone</u>	An actor alters the tone to convey emotion or meaning (e.g: a whining tone for a character of a child pleading for a new toy)
<u>Pitch</u>	The highness or lowness of the tone of voice. Generally male voices are lower pitched and female voices are higher pitched
<u>Volume</u>	Using the voice loudly or quietly and clearly to ensure the dialogue is heard by the audience.
<u>Pace</u>	The speed the dialogue is delivered to the audience

Test yourself

Task: Draw arrows to connect the key words with correct description.

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What is acting?

Acting is an activity in which a story is told by means of its enactment by an actor or actress who adopts a character—in theatre, television, film, or radio

Acting involves a broad range of skills, including a well-developed imagination, emotional facility, physical expressivity, projection, clarity of speech, and the ability to interpret drama. Acting also demands an ability to employ dialects, accents, improvisation, observation and vocal emulation, mime, and stage combat.



What is drama in school?

Drama lessons include a wide range of activities such as mask work, devising, Greek Theatre, set design and script writing. Students will investigate different theatre styles in order to deepen their knowledge of the subject and develop the quality of their work. Our curriculum also allows our pupils to explore the world around them creatively. For example exploring social issues through drama can be a highly powerful tool in examining different perspectives and can educate or young people in terms of tolerance and acceptance. Delving into historical theatre and the work of contemporary theatre companies the pupils are enriched given opportunities to develop and create original ideas. Drama can allow pupils to express themselves, their opinions, their ideas and reflect on the world around them using their own unique voices

Theatre Vocabulary

THEATRE-a building or outdoor area in which plays and other dramatic performances are given.

PLAY - A piece of text containing lines and stage directions designed to be performed live on a stage in front of an audience.

PLAYWRIGHT- The author of a play.

PROPS- Furnishings, set dressings, and all items large and small which cannot be classified as scenery, electrics or wardrobe. Props handled by actors are known as hand props

CAST- In the performing arts industry such as theatre, film, or television, a casting (or casting call) is a pre-production process for selecting a certain type of actor. Or the group of people involved in the production.

COSTUME- What the character/actor wears in role

DIRECTOR- Theatre directors set their artistic vision for a play, including selecting the cast, collaborating with designers, blocking the play's movements, leading rehearsals, and monitoring the production's pacing

STAGE - a designated space for the performance of productions. The stage serves as a space for actors or performers and a focal point

CHARACTER- Character, particularly when enacted by an actor in the theatre or cinema, involves "the illusion of being a human person"

SCENE- A scene is a part of an act defined with the changing of characters. To be more specific, the elements that create the plot of a play setting up the rest of the story.

ROLE- If something or someone plays a part or plays a role in a situation, they are involved in it and have an effect on it. They played a part in the life of their community.

Now test yourself to see if you can find the Theatre Vocabulary in this wordsearch 😊

Theatre Vocabulary

c a i s c e n e i r d h m h m n i
 n t i i h l p p l a y a i a h r m
 p p w r m p m r t y m v y n o s p
 s g w i r t h e a t r e d t l t r
 t w i o w p r d o r h n c c y m o
 c i p s m l w s h n s e m v g p v
 s s i i e t d u r l r d l v e d i
 r i e g a r o l e i l v n v o o s
 t e r p y l u o d w n u p e t c a
 a h t t l n u i v i h l c d o y t
 m v y c t s s t a g e u h s r i i
 s i t s a c t h g w p w t s h r o
 m a h n i r y h a l a u a m n p n
 c e n g u o a e u m m h e y d i a
 s h m g h c a h c e e v p o e n l
 e r i c l o v p c p g r e u s o s
 l n p l a y w r i g h t s i m s u

improvisation

character

director

scene

stage

costume

cast

props

playwright

play

theatre

role

As another introduction task, we really want to see what you are capable of, and how willing you are at showing your acting skills. So, this task requires you to use your, vocal and physical skills, your imagination skills and develop your confidence. This is a great chance to show off your accents to your family and perhaps get them involved to. 😊

Improvisation task.

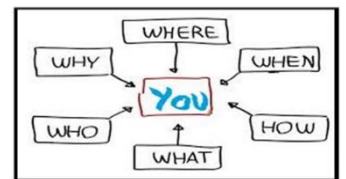
We would like you to create a scene using what is commonly known as 'Improvisation', this means;

'Improvisation is the activity of making or doing something not planned beforehand, using whatever can be found. Improvisation in the performing arts is a very spontaneous performance without specific or scripted preparation.'

Some of you may have done improvisation before, for some of you this might be your first ever time. I'm sure some of you may have seen lots of improvisations people have created using Tik Tok or you might have used it in primary school or perhaps you go to a drama school in the evenings? Either way we would love for you to give this a try.

firstly, to create a successful improvisation there needs to be context in your piece.

context



Who - Who is the character you are playing? Where - Where does your improvisation take place?

What - what is happening in the improvisation? Why - why do the characters respond in this way?

Using one of the scenarios below we would like you to create your own improvised scene with someone in your household. You could do this alone, playing both characters... or you could get your family involved to help play another.

You must take on one of the characters and create a scene based on the character, location and situation below.

When you have decided the scene you would like to do, give it a go, have fun with it and enjoy. 😊

The Hilbre Drama Department can't wait to see what you can create...

<u>Scenario 1</u>	<u>Scenario 2</u>	<u>Scenario 3</u>
<p>Who - Two young siblings and/or a parent.</p> <p>Where - playing in their bedroom, garden, front room.</p> <p>What - One of the children wants to play with the toy the other child has, an argument takes place, one child is upset, and the parents must stop the conflict.</p>	<p>Who - A police officer and a criminal.</p> <p>Where - In an interrogation room at a police station.</p> <p>What - the police officer is interrogating the thief who is denying they have committed a crime. What has criminal done?</p>	<p>Who - A Teacher and a Pupil.</p> <p>Where - In a classroom.</p> <p>What - the pupil has forgotten their homework and is trying to come up with an excuse, so they do not get into trouble.</p>

Live Theatre

Welcome Year 7. We can't wait to meet you, start having fun with you in drama, take part in acting in plays and even taking you to see live plays.

During the lockdown, sadly theatres have had to close to protect audiences from the virus. We can all enjoy watching our favourite films and shows on screens....but there is nothing quite as special as seeing LIVE acting and performance.

Some of you may have been lucky enough to visit the theatre and will already know what it is like to watch a play/ show/ musical on a stage.

Here are two clips from Roald Dahl's 'Matilda'...one from the movie and one from the West End live production.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqnhqkXclUk-> Clip from the Movie

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HK1y-6NUx1g-> Clip from the live play

1) Can you contrast and compare what is the same and what is different from a acted film or a live production? Use the table to make you list please. (I have done the first one for you.) You can compare the use of set, props, how they show magic, speech or music, audience interaction (getting them involved), the movie camera can be paused and reshot if someone forgets a lineetc ☺

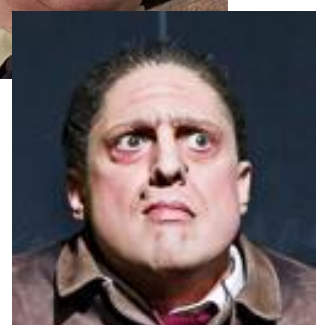
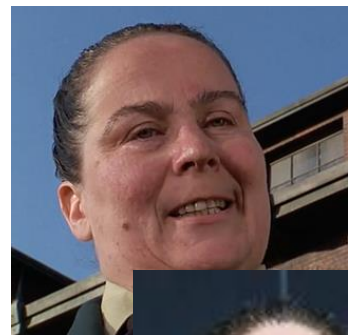
The Movie https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqnhqkXclUk-	The Live Play https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HK1y-6NUx1g-
1. The actress playing Miss Trunchbull is acting on a movie set with child actors.	2. The actor playing Trunchbull starts acting by standing in the audience - looking at the children on the stage

2) Then describe in your own words why you think live performance is seen by so many as more magical and special than watching a screen at home.

3.) Two wonderful actors play Miss Trunchbull in these clips. In the movie is **Pam Ferris** and in the West End live musical is **Bertie Carvel**.

Compare their amazing performances.

a) Which actor has the scariest voice and why?



b) Which actor has the most expressive facial expressions and when?

c) Which actor's costume is the best and why?

d) The character of Trunchbull in the live play is played by a man....do you think this works or not?



e) Which one do you believe represents the hateful headmistress the best and why? Please give your opinion.

4. **Improvisation-** Imagine you are playing the role of the hateful teacher Miss Trunchbull 😊

Act out a scene as if you are playing the hideous character shouting at a poor new year 7 reception child on their first day of school. Use your voice, facial expressions and body to act out her accusing a new reception child of stealing her board pen! Most of all make her funny and have fun creating this evil headmistress! (You could film yourself pretending to tell off one of your teddies....or even a parent if they could pretend to play the reception child!

☺Read the following for some of her character traits. (Luckily you will definitely NOT find any teachers like her at Hilbre !:-)

- She hates all children ("I think all children should be born as adults!")
 - She used to be a shot put Olympic champion.
 - She enjoys humiliating children.
 - She locks children in a cupboard called a choky which is a tight space with nails sticking out to punish children.
 - She throws children out of the window and enjoys humiliating children.
 - She loves to create awful descriptive insults with lots of adjectives to describe her HATE for children.
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Thank you Year 6/ New Year 7's ☺

We hope you enjoy completing the work you have set.

We can't wait to meet you and teach you drama in September.