Subject: Drama

Qualification: BTEC Level 2 Tech Award

What will I study?

The Drama curriculum centres around three main skills – performing, devising and analysing performances.

The first component students study is called 'Exploring the Performing Arts'. For this unit, students initially study a range of different theatre styles, from commedia dell'arte in 'One Man, Two Guvnors' to physical theatre in 'Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time'. After watching these performances, students get to explore how the roles of an actor, director, designer and promotor all contribute to different aspects of this performance through both their own research and their own performance rehearsals. Through keeping a log of their ideas, students develop a portfolio of evidence on how the performing arts create meaning.

Component 2 is entitled 'Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts'. For this component, students will get to hone their own performance skills, exploring aspects of movement, gesture, facial expression, physicality and more. Students will be given time to rehearse and refine their performance, considering how they can use costumes, props, lighting and acting skills to shape meaning. Students will also have to complete a reflective piece where they consider why they have made certain key choices and how they hope these have shaped their final piece.

For the final component, Component 3, students will 'Respond to a Brief' and devise their own piece of theatre. This aspect of the course gives students an opportunity to create their own piece of theatre from a stimulus. Working in small groups, students generate their own ideas for a performance before devising, rehearsing and performing their performance. Students are assessed on both their final performance and their reflections on the process of devising.

What can this qualification lead to?

Students can use Drama as a springboard to study A levels in Drama, Media or English. However, the speaking and listening skills that are developed during Drama are invaluable for the presentational skills that many jobs now desire.

Please contact Mr Dineen for further information: tdineen@stpetershuntingdon.org