# YEAR 8 DRAMA – PARENT GUIDE

## What will my child study?

Year 8 Drama provides students with a practical introduction to performance while developing **confidence, creativity, communication and teamwork**.

Students learn primarily through practical exploration, rehearsal and performance. Across the year, they encounter different stories and theatrical styles while developing the foundations they will need for Drama throughout Key Stage 3.

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| **Term 1 – Darkwood Manor**<br>Students begin with storytelling and the foundations of performance. They explore techniques including **improvisation, still image, physical theatre and characterisation**, while learning how to develop ideas and rehearse successfully with others. |
| **Term 2 – Greek Theatre**<br>Students explore the traditions and performance style of **Ancient Greek Theatre**. They develop their understanding of ensemble performance through techniques including **chorus, mime, movement and unison**, considering how performers can tell stories collectively. |
| **Term 3 – The Tempest**<br>Students are introduced to **Shakespeare through practical Drama**. Rather than studying the play solely as a text, they explore its story, characters and key moments through **physical theatre, ensemble work and characterisation**, developing confidence in approaching Shakespeare through performance. |

## What skills will Drama develop?

Throughout Year 8, students will develop:
**Confidence & communication • Teamwork & cooperation • Creativity & imagination • Problem-solving • Speaking & listening • Focus & concentration • Performance skills • Reflection & evaluation**

## How can I support my child?

Parents do **not** need specialist Drama knowledge. You can help by asking your child what they are currently creating or rehearsing, encouraging them to practise lines or performance ideas at home, and discussing performances they see in theatre, film or television.

Most importantly, encourage them to **take creative risks, contribute to their group and reflect on how they can improve their performance**.