At Soar Valley, we believe that Drama provides every student with the opportunity to develop creativity, confidence and self-expression. Our Drama curriculum encourages students to explore ideas, understand different perspectives and communicate effectively through performance.

Students in Years 7 and 8 receive one Drama lesson each week, while Year 9 students receive one lesson every two weeks. Through engaging practical activities and the study of a range of plays, characters and theatrical styles, students develop essential **performance, creative and analytical skills**.

From exploring characterisation, improvisation and vocal and physical expression to developing scripted performances and physical theatre, our curriculum builds students' knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Drama.

We are committed to creating an inclusive and supportive environment where every student feels confident to participate, take creative risks and develop their individual talents. Through collaborative rehearsal, performance and reflection, students build valuable life skills including **teamwork, communication, resilience, problem-solving and empathy**.

Our curriculum introduces students to a range of influential theatrical approaches and encourages learners to think critically about their own work and the performances of others. Above all, we aim to inspire a lasting appreciation of Drama while equipping students with the confidence, creativity and transferable skills to succeed both within and beyond the classroom.

DRAMA CURRICULUM | UNIT SKILLS AT A GLANCE

Soar Valley · Years 7–9 · Medium-term planning overview

TERM	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	CURRICULUM FOCUS
Sept – Oct	DARKWOOD MANOR • Still images and characterisation • Vocal skills: pace, tone and volume • Hot-seating, improvisation and monologues	BLOOD BROTHERS • Interpret and annotate a script • Build character through vocal/physical skills • Duologues, improvisation and comedy	NOUGHTS & CROSSES • Status, power and inequality in context • Proxemics, levels and characterisation • Scripted staging and performance evaluation	Character, performance and context
Oct – Jan	HARRY POTTER AND THE CURSED CHILD • Naturalistic theatre and script work • Physical skills: posture, facial expression, gesture, space and proxemics • Vocal expression, particularly tone	PHYSICAL THEATRE — CURIOUS INCIDENT • Frantic Assembly: Sticky Hands, Quads and Round-by-through • Unison, canon and ensemble movement • Devise, rehearse and evaluate sequences	SCRIPTED PERFORMANCE • Interpret text and build believable characters (DNA / Girls Like That MTPs) • Apply physical and vocal performance choices • Rehearse, perform and evaluate scripted work	Script interpretation and physical theatre
Jan – Mar	CHICKEN! • Theatre in Education and playwright's intentions • Improvisation and cross-cutting • Stage work in theatre-in-the-round	BRECHT • Principles of Brechtian theatre • Naturalism compared with abstract approaches • Alienation and awareness of the audience	CAREERS • Theatre production roles and responsibilities • Lighting, sound, costume, directing and performing • Teamwork and presentation skills	Theatrical styles, collaboration and production roles
Apr – Jul	STANISLAVSKI • Develop and sustain characters • Explore the Magic If • Apply physical and vocal performance skills	UNIT 4 - Updated to suit students own interest whilst reflecting current topics relating to society and cultural climate.	CAREERS • Theatre production roles and responsibilities • Lighting, sound, costume, directing and performing • Teamwork and presentation skills	Character development and theatre careers