



ST IVO SCHOOL

Details about the Drama Department

The Drama department is a small but lively and ambitious one. We are all committed to engaging students in challenging and fun lessons, encouraging them to tap into their own playfulness and creativity, learn the artistic skills of theatre craft, and develop a range of transferrable skills which will allow them to grow into well-rounded and successful young people. We see Drama as a collaborative art form and the Drama team adopt this approach in our professional work with one another as well as with the students. Schemes of work are structured and challenging, but allow each classroom practitioner the opportunity to play to their strengths and indulge their creative whims. Staff are encouraged to share resources and team-teach wherever possible.

We are a well resourced department, with two designated Drama spaces - one a fully operating black box theatre, with lighting rig and sound system and a classroom attached. Both classrooms have interactive whiteboards. The spaces are used flexibly, allowing all students to experience the technical resources at our disposal.

Extra-curricular Drama is thriving. We currently run an upper and lower school Drama club as well as a musical theatre club. We have a history of ambitious drama productions. In the last five years we have mounted full scale productions of Oliver!, South Pacific, Cabaret, Les Miserables and West Side Story. These highlights of the academic year are performed in The Burgess Hall, a professional performance space, adjacent to our drama studio, and the high standards we achieve are testament to the wealth of talent we have in our student body, and the healthy working relationships which have been developed between our highly skilled dance, drama and music departments. The performing arts team is a real strength of the school and we look forward to more exciting collaborations in the future.

Students have regular Drama lessons throughout Key Stage 3, fortnightly in Years 7 and 8 (some on a half termly rotation with Dance) and once a week in Year 9. Our uptake at GCSE and A level is healthy and students in both key stages follow the new AQA specification.

This is an exciting time to be joining the Drama department, with an experienced and passionate Head of Department in post who has a clear vision for the future of the subject. We are looking forward to recruiting an energetic and talented classroom practitioner who is dedicated to inspiring young people to achieve outstanding results both inside and outside the classroom. We do face certain challenges from broader society, as our young people are under increased pressure to see the arts as mere hobbies. However we enjoy strong support from our school leadership team. We can assure the successful candidate of warm and supportive working relationships with our team who face the challenges, inherent in arts education, with resilience and healthy senses of humour.

For further information please contact:

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