

Teaching aims for KS3 Drama at Priory School

Intention

The KS3 Drama curriculum is designed to build expressive, confident learners through practical exploration of storytelling, character, and real-life situations. In **Cycle A**, Year 7 and 8 students study *Beowulf*, using physical theatre and characterisation to connect with English and Humanities through myth and Anglo-Saxon history, followed by *Anansi the Spider*, which celebrates global storytelling and moral tales with links to African culture and traditional narratives. In **Cycle B**, they explore *Comic Books*, developing visual literacy and exaggerated performance skills, then apply drama to *Safety Situations*, using role play to rehearse responses to real-world risks—supporting PSHE and communication. In **Year 9**, students deepen emotional understanding through *Real-Life Issues*, exploring identity, relationships and empathy, and then creatively reimagine *Fairy Tales* with symbolic and moral twists. Across all blocks, drama supports cross-curricular learning in English, Humanities, Life Skills and Communication, while developing teamwork, confidence, and self-expression.

Supporting children to develop empathy with, and understanding of, other people and the confidence needed to assume a role or character	For them to build the bridge between make-believe and the art form of theatre
Allow children to learn to co-operate with others, in and out of role, when problems are presented	To develop a child's ability to enter into the drama world physically, emotionally and intellectually
To allow children to develop the ability to use drama to express a view on a subject	To develop the social skills needed to interact openly, honestly and playfully with others

Performing Arts Long Term Plan 2025 and onwards E. LaRussa

Develop personal adaptability, spontaneity, co-operation, verbal skills, non-verbal skills, imagination and creativity; so that the drama they create reflects real life in a fresh way.	To allow children to co-operate, communicate and problem solve
Being able to understand and appreciate plot, theme and character	To understand the structures and modes of drama – see definitions 8 inclusive drama techniques.docx (sharepoint.com)
For children to gain a knowledge of drama through exploration of themes drawn from life, whether that be in subject areas or a child's life	

Key Stage 3		Block 1 Autumn / Spring		Block 2 Spring / Summer		Additional resources if you have already completed block 1 and 2 (2 year cycle)
Cycle A 2025-26	<u>Cycle A: Year 7/8</u>	Block 1: Beowulf <i>7-8 double lessons</i>		Block 2: Anansi the Spider – African Tales <i>6 double lessons</i>		A choice of history-based activities that includes: Sutton Hoo, Grace Darling, World War 2 and the Great Fire of London.
Cycle B: 2026-2027	On rotation with DT and Food. Each class to do two units in a year	Use the story of Beowulf to explore a range of dramatic techniques, including tableau, freeze frame, thought tracking, speaking in role, physical theatre and performing. See MTP for individual lesson LOs.		Use the story of Anansi to explore a range of dramatic techniques, including recognising the importance of oral storytelling, creating soundscapes, movement, and designing set pieces with an African influence		Primary Drama KS2 - BBC Teach

		Green Cycle A Y7-8 Drama Block 1 - Beowulf.docx Cycle A Y7-8 Drama Block 1 - Beowulf.docx			
	<p><u>Cycle B: Year 7/8</u></p> <p>On rotation with DT and Food.</p> <p>Each class to do two units in a year</p>	<p>Block 1: Comic Books/Films</p> <p><i>7-8 double lessons</i></p> <p>Use familiar Comic Book stories to explore a range of dramatic techniques, including tableau, freeze frame, thought tracking, speaking in role, physical theatre, designing a character.</p> <p>See MTP for individual lesson LOs</p>		<p>Block 2: Situation and safety</p> <p><i>6 double lessons</i></p> <p>Use drama to explore the theme of safety in different relevant settings.</p> <p>See MTP for individual lesson LOs.</p>	
	<p><u>Year 9</u></p> <p>On rotation with DT and Food.</p> <p>Each class to do two units in a year</p>	<p>Explore Drama Through Real Life</p> <p><i>7-8 double lessons</i></p> <p>Using scripts to explore familiar social situations, dealing with conflicts and developing problem solving skills.</p> <p>See MTP for individual lesson LOs.</p>		<p>Fairy Tales</p> <p><i>6 double lessons</i></p> <p>Using familiar fairy tale stories and developing drama skills to retell, continue, and improve these stories as well as to explore characterisation and design set pieces.</p>	<p>A choice of history-based drama activities. Topics include: Folk and Fairy Tales, Victorian Childhood and Ancient Egypt.</p> <p>Drama - BBC Teach</p>

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Teaching aims for KS3 Drama at Mount Road Unit of Priory School

Mount Road Intent Statement:

The drama curriculum is designed to help Mount Road students develop confidence, empathy, and teamwork through a range of structured role-play, performance, and problem-solving activities. The curriculum directly supports learners' EHCP Communication and Interaction outcomes by encouraging verbal and non-verbal expression, turn-taking, active listening, and collaborative work in a safe, creative environment.

In Block 1, 2025 – 2026 students will explore the unusual and often humorous characters in *Holes* and *Wayside School* by *Louis Sachar* and *The Cafe at the Edge of the Woods* by *Mikey Please*, through accessible drama techniques such as mime, role-play, tableaux, and soundscapes. These activities support learners to identify and communicate emotions, develop personal voice, and understand cause and effect in social scenarios. Students are supported to connect character experiences to their own feelings and challenges, fostering emotional literacy and perspective-taking.

Block 1 2026-27 students continue to develop their drama skills as this drama unit is designed to support Mount Road learners in building self-expression, confidence, and communication through the imaginative world of adventure stories. Learners explore characters, settings, and emotions using multi-sensory and accessible drama strategies, while working towards personalised EHCP Communication and Interaction outcomes such as:

- Expressing choices, thoughts, and feelings
- Interacting positively with others
- Developing confidence in group communication
- Practising social behaviours in imaginative contexts

In Block 2, students will take part in Comic Strip Drama Workshops, using drama to bring visual storyboards to life. They will explore real-life and social themes such as friendship, fairness, and conflict resolution through structured improvisation, guided performance, and character development. These sessions promote expressive language, sequencing, and social communication, and offer alternative ways of storytelling that reduce cognitive and communication barriers.

Block 2 – 2026 –2027 This drama unit uses the engaging and visual format of comic strips to help Mount Road students explore real-life and social themes such as friendship, fairness, and conflict resolution in a structured, accessible, and creative way.

Through guided drama techniques—including mime, role-play, tableaux, and soundscapes—students are supported in developing key communication, interaction, and emotional understanding skills. These lessons promote self-expression, confidence, and empathy, and directly support EHCP outcomes related to expressive communication, turn-taking, social engagement, and emotional regulation.

Cross-Curricular Links inc:

- English: Story structure, character development, sequencing, vocabulary building
- Music: Mood setting with sound, vocal expression, rhythm in performance
- PSHE: Relationships, emotions, making positive choices, empathy

Mount Road		Block 1 Autumn / Spring	Block 2 Spring / Summer	Additional resources if you have already completed block 1 and 2 (2 year cycle)
	<u>Cycle A: Year 7/8/9</u>	<p>Block 1: Holes, Wayside School by Lious Sachar & The Cafe at the edge of the wood Mikey Please</p> <p>Explore the unusual and often humorous characters in <i>Holes</i> and <i>Wayside School by Louis Sachar</i></p>	<p>Block 2: Anansi the Spider – African Tales</p> <p>Explore real-life and social themes such as friendship,</p>	<p>A choice of history-based activities that includes: Sutton Hoo, Grace Darling, World War 2 and the</p>

		<p>and The Cafe at the Edge fo the Woods through accessible drama techniques such as mime, role-play, tableaux, and soundscapes</p> <p>See MTP for individual lesson LOs.</p>		<p>fairness, and conflict resolution through structured improvisation, guided performance, and character development.</p> <p>See MTP for individual lesson LOs.</p>		<p>Great Fire of London.</p> <p>Primary Drama KS2 - BBC Teach</p>
	<p><u>Cycle B: Year 7/8/9</u></p>	<p>Block 1 Adventure Stories</p> <p>This drama unit is designed to support Mount Road learners in building self-expression, confidence, and communication through the imaginative world of adventure stories. Learners explore characters, settings, and emotions using multi-sensory and accessible drama strategies, while working towards personalised EHCP Communication and Interaction outcomes such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expressing choices, thoughts, and feelings 		<p>Block 2 Comic strips</p> <p>This drama unit is to help Mount Road learners explore real-life and social themes such as friendship, fairness, and conflict resolution in a structured, accessible, and creative way.</p> <p>Through guided drama techniques—including mime, role-play, tableaux, and soundscapes linked to comic strips—students are supported in developing key</p>		<p>A choice of history-based drama activities. Topics include: Folk and Fairy Tales, Victorian Childhood and Ancient Egypt.</p> <p>Drama - BBC Teach</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interacting positively with others • Developing confidence in group communication • Practising social behaviours in imaginative contexts <p>See MTP for individual lesson LOs.</p>		<p>communication, interaction, and emotional understanding skills.</p> <p>Using simple comic strip panels as a storytelling scaffold, learners will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring characters and emotions to life • Explore social situations through drama • Reflect on their own choices, actions, and feelings • Practise positive interaction and collaborative problem-solving 		
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Teaching aims for KS3/4 Drama at Priory Aspire Unit

Art Proposal- The Arts

Autumn	Spring	Summer
Part A: Explore the Arts as a Participant	Part B: Explore the Arts as an Audience Member Part C: Arts Inspiration	Part D: Share and Reflect

Students at Aspire will explore Art, Drama and Music through the Trinity Arts Award, to meet the needs of our learners. Brief briefs are set by teachers based on areas of interest, and students follow the TASC wheel to deepen learning and understanding. Staff will track progress through the framework below.

