Year 8

Timing	Unit Title	Key Question	Knowledge	Assessing understanding
Autumn 1 and 2	Physical Theatre	How can we include non-naturalistic techniques into performance? What is the effect?	 Dealing with a serious topic using non-naturalistic techniques to convey strong emotions and meaning effectively EDI – Social, historical, political context discussed in relation to wars across time periods and locations, draws on students own knowledge to explore physical theatre through war poetry in the classroom 	How understanding is assessed Theatrical convention of moving backwards and forwards in time, showing a non-linear structure Applying theatrical convention to create atmosphere Communicating effectively with the audience Follow and create sequences Apply theatrical convention to inform the audience Demonstration of Abstract style Think and work on the spot Recognise rhythm and pace and be able to apply this to performance Recognise and apply structure Apply appropriate characterisation to voice to create mood and atmosphere Think creatively Lead others in creating appropriate performance Perform in front of an audience
				Skills Cross cutting Slow motion Direct address Stimulus Choreography Freeze frame Stylisation Improvisation

				 Though tracking Gesture Rhythm and Pace Chair duets Sequencing Performance structure Voice Devising Directing Performing Assessment Point information
				Process marked
				Performance marked
Spring 1	Melodrama	What are the characteristics of melodrama?	 Exploration and application of melodramatic style. EDI – groups are selected by teachers to make sure groups are inclusive of all abilities in relation to melodrama, social and historical context of melodrama in taught alongside students own knowledge of this genre of theatre or similar styles in different cultures 	 How understanding is assessed Melodramatic techniques applied in performance Writing a melodramatic script Performing stock characters Over exaggerated actions Distinct vocals Communicating effectively to an audience Evoking emotion in the audience Skills Stock characters (villain, damsel, hero, sick kick) Exaggeration
				 Exaggeration Mime Rule of three Aside Facial expression Body Language Vocal characterisation

Spring 2	Melodrama	What are the characteristics of melodrama?	 Exploration and application of melodramatic style. EDI – groups are selected by teachers to make sure groups are inclusive of all abilities in relation to melodrama, social and historical context of melodrama in taught alongside students own knowledge of this genre of theatre or similar styles in different cultures 	 Creating tension Dramatic pauses Assessment Point information Process marked Performance marked How understanding is assessed Melodramatic techniques applied in performance Writing a melodramatic script Performing stock characters Over exaggerated actions Distinct vocals Communicating effectively to an audience Evoking emotion in the audience Skills Stock characters (villain, damsel, hero, sick kick) Exaggeration Mime Rule of three Aside Facial expression Body Language Vocal characterisation
				Facial expressionBody Language
				Assessment Point information (if applicable) Process marked Performance marked

Curriculum Outline 2025-26

Summer 1 Summer 2	Production Elements Production Elements	What are production elements How can you effectively analyse and evaluate live performance?	Developing an understanding of the different production elements needed to put on a live performance. Exploring live performance from a designer's perspective. EDI – this unit explores the different routes into theatrical production people can take i.e set and costume design and explores and celebrates the diverse skills people have in the theatre industry	 How understanding is assessed Creating a shoe box set design Creating a costume design Creating a lighting and sound design Analysing live performance Evaluating the success of live performance Describing and explaining what has been seen in a live performance.
				Skills Set design Lighting and sound design Costume design Presentation Analysing Evaluating Describing/Explaining Essay writing Assessment Point information (if applicable) Process marked every other week Final live theatre essay marked at the end of the topic