

Performing Arts

- Drama
- Music
- Performing Arts



Drama

Key Stage 3

Drama at Futures begins in Year 7. All Key Stage 3 students have an hour drama lesson every week. Our Drama lessons encourages students to work imaginatively and creatively in a collaborative context. The balance between creativity, solid commitment and expressing oneself is intrinsic to personal development. We explore a number of key skills that are not just fundamental to Drama achievement but are core human qualities. We aim to support learners to discover new talents, boost confidence and self-esteem, and provide them with a voice that they can take into all lessons, all subjects, and use within everyday life.

The focus at Key Stage 3 is the development of the core skills known as the 5Cs. These are Confidence, Co-operation, Creativity, Communication and Control. Students gain an understanding of the various forms of Drama, through practical lessons. They are encouraged to challenge ideas through issue based devised work, script interpretation and mime to music. They also study a variety of theatre forms such as physical theatre, melodrama and comedy improvisation. A favourite with students being our Trestle mask work and Theatre in Education schemes.

Year 7 Drama

Autumn 1 New Skills
Autumn 2 Scripts & Panto

Spring 1 Wild West
Spring 2 Stanislavski

Summer 1 Haunted House
Summer 2 Musical Theatre

Year 8 Drama

Autumn 1 Murder Enquiry
Autumn 2 Scripts

Spring 1 Mine & Neutral Masks
Spring 2 Physical Theatre

Summer 1 Mine & Music
Summer 2 Homelessness

Year 9 Drama

Autumn 1 Mine & Trestle Masks

Spring 1 Tie

Summer 1 Drama into Industry -
Commercials & Soaps

Autumn 2 Abstract Theatre

Spring 2 Tie

Summer 2 Drama into Industry -
Commercial 2 & Stage Make-up

Over Key Stage 3 Students will be introduced to: Explorative strategies

- Still image
- Narrating
- Role play
- Hot-seating
- Thought-tracking
- Cross-cutting

The drama medium

- The use of costume
- The use of lighting
- The use of voice
- The use of masks and/or make-up
- The use of space and/or levels
- The use of movement, mime and gesture
- The use of sound and/or music
- The use of set and/or props

Tel: 01702 415 300
Fax: 01702 584 611
Email: info@futures.uk.com
Web: www.futures.uk.com



Futures Community College | Southchurch Boulevard | Southend on Sea | Essex SS2 4UY

Headteacher: Mr S Reynolds

The elements of drama

- Action/plot/content
- Rhythm/pace/tempo
- Forms
- Characterisation
- Climax/anti-climax
- Contrasts

Forms of stimuli

- Artefacts: photographs, pictures, masks, props, costume, sculpture
- Extracts from literary fiction and non-fiction
- Live theatre performance
- Newspaper and magazine articles
- Play scripts
- Music
- Poetry

Key Stage 4

At present Key Stage 4 Drama is continued through BTEC Performing Arts – Acting and Musical Theatre pathways.

Extra Curricular - There is a whole school musical production every year that all students can participate in as actors, dancers and in back stage roles. This is fully inclusive venture where students of all ages and levels of experience work side by side. It is said that our performance groups become a 'family' through rehearsals, with students supporting each other to be their best.

Previous school productions include:

- Oliver
- Hairspray
- We Will Rock You
- Wizard of Oz
- Grease
- Lion King
- Buggy Malone

Modern British Value in Drama

British values are intrinsic to the work that we do in the Drama curriculum. Working in groups; co-operation, motivation and respect is the basis of the learning, which encourages the students to develop patience and esteem within themselves and towards others. The topics we cover celebrate, highlight and acknowledge historical events, British theatre, playwrights and film giving the students a breadth of knowledge and understanding of the country that they live in. The combination of self-discovery supported by the rich history, culture and performance art that we have in Britain provides Drama students with a well-rounded subject to enjoy and learn from.

Music

Music is at the heart of everything and remains an important part of our daily lives.

At Futures, we believe that music can reach out to all individuals and allow them to express themselves in a multitude of ways.

Music is for everyone, of all ages and whatever genre of music they love to listen to.

During your music education at Futures, many topics are covered to give you the best musical education in preparation for your future.

Year 7 Topics

- Autumn Term 1 - Elements of Music – Pitch Notations and Rhythms in music
 - Autumn Term 2 - Instruments of the Orchestra
 - Spring Term 1 - Theme and Variation
 - Spring Term 2 - Song Writing
 - Summer Term 1 - Graphic Score
 - Summer Term 2 - Programme Music
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Year 8 Topics

- Autumn Term 1 - Rhythm and Pitch – Advanced Techniques
- Autumn Term 2 - Opera
- Spring Term 1 - Scales and Chords – How to compose a piece of music with structure
- Spring Term 2 - Music and the Media
- Summer Term 1 - Indian Music
- Summer Term 2 - African Music – African Drumming

Year 9 Topics

- Autumn Term 1 - Keyboard Skills
- Autumn Term 2 - Musicals
- Spring Term 1 - Music through the Ages
- Spring Term 2 - Song Writing and Rap Music – Advanced Techniques
- Summer Term 1 - Musical Analysis – Listening and Appraising
- Summer Term 2 - Performances – Free Choice

Year 10 & 11 – GCSE Music

The Year 10 and 11 students follow a fantastic syllabus and specification constructed by EDEXCEL examination board. The course includes the following skills:

- Listening and Appraising (40% of overall GCSE)
- Composition (30% of overall GCSE)
- Performing (30% of overall GCSE)

During the two year course, students will be taught how to develop their listening and appraising skills by listening to selected musical material to develop their understanding of how music is structured and developed.

Performances within the classroom will be held fortnightly, to allow students to build confidence within their performance skills and learning how to interact with an audience.

Students will be taught how to compose music in a variety of styles and genres, with the aid of music technology.

All students taking GCSE Music will be entitled to a free instrument/vocal lesson to help them progress further in their chosen instrument.

There are various clubs available for students to join which will enable them to become all rounded musicians and develop performance and social skills.

Year 10 & 11 BTEC Music

The Year 10 and 11 students follow a very well-crafted syllabus with assignments to be completed within a given time frame.

The students will have the opportunity to compose music on MAC computers with Garage Band, Logic PRO. They will be given help and guidance to support their learning throughout the course and they will also have the opportunity to perform on their chosen instrument throughout the two years.

The workload for this BTEC is predominantly coursework based and allows the students to control their assignments.

Some of the topics covered within BTEC music are:

- Composing musical ideas using Logic PRO or Garageband
- Using the musical ideas to build into a larger scale piece of music in a genre of their own choosing.
- Composing a piece of music to accompany an advert

There are various clubs available for students to join which will enable them to become all rounded confident musicians, developing their composition and arranging skills.

Instrumental and vocal lessons are available, which they are entitled to as part of their course. The music department has many amazing things to offer the students at Futures and has at the centre, the wellbeing and development of young people at the heart of everything we do.

Examples of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education in Music include:

- Pupils sharing their feelings about music and how it reflects mood, emotion and sharing personal experiences.
- Pupils are given the opportunity to create music to express their feelings in a safe, secure and positive atmosphere.
- Pupils learn how to listen to each others' opinions and views in a controlled, yet expressive
- Pupils participating in a variety of interactive musical tasks, which give them the opportunity to express their feelings, their emotions and tell stories through music.
- Pupils will be given the opportunity to visit musical theatres and experience a variety of musical cultures.

Key Stage 4 Performing Arts (Drama & Musical Theatre)

At Futures we follow a BTEC course. This can be either an Award or Certificate

What will I learn?

- You will develop your acting, dance, and/or music skills to a higher level; (depending on which PATHWAY the course is following; at present our Year 11's are following an ACTING PATHWAY, whereas our Year 10 students have opted for a MUSICAL THEATRE PATHWAY
- To be part of a performance cast (the backbone to all School productions)
- Perform to an audience with confidence
- Practical and theory sides of the Performing Arts Industry
- This course allows you to focus on your talents and interests and explore new areas.

Assessment

Depending on which pathway you choose your main unit will be either ACTING or MUSICAL THEATRE. You will be assessed on building and improving your skills in every lesson /workshop.

Both pathways have two main units which are delivered through vocational based assignments with performance at the heart.

Unit one: Individual showcase; This assessment is externally moderated. You will need to prepare two audition pieces (monologues) plus complete a written task.

Unit two: Performance, Preparation and Production; This is an internally assessment unit where you will be responsible of putting on a show; being part of the performance or backstage team.

There is no written examination in BTEC, however if you are following the CERTIFICATE there is an online exam that tests the knowledge of the Performing Arts Industry.

In all BTECs you will be required to keep a written record of your practical work in the form of a log book and portfolio which is created through gathering evidence; showing the skills and processes you have learnt. Further Units may be studied to increase the size of the qualification.

Coursework is essential for all BTEC Performing Arts qualifications.

To follow the Edexcel BTEC Performing Arts Course you will be expected to:

- Work alongside other students in creating and performing work;
- You must be prepared to attend rehearsals
- Either learn an instrument, be part of a choir, dance club, or School production club
- Ability to give and receive constructive feedback.
- Be prepared to evidence your practical work in a portfolio of coursework and project based research

Our Year 11 are currently completing the following units

Edexcel BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts			
Unit	Core units	Assessment method	GLH
1	Individual Showcase	External	30
2	Preparation, Performance and Production	Internal	30
Optional specialist units			
3	Acting Skills	Internal	60
4	Dance Skills	Internal	60
5	Musical Theatre Skills	Internal	60
6	Music Performance Skills	Internal	60
7	Production Skills for Performance	Internal	60

Students have the option to complete additional units to increase their qualification to the Certificate which is worth 2 x GCSEs.

Our current Year 10 are working towards a certificate

Edexcel BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Certificate in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)			
Unit	Core units	Assessment method	GLH
1	Individual Showcase	External	30
2	Preparation, Performance and Production	Internal	30
Mandatory units			
5	Musical Theatre Skills*	Internal	60
8	The Performing Arts Industry	External	30
Optional specialist units			
Group A (minimum two units from this group)			
9	Performance in Context	Internal	30
10	Movement Skills	Internal	30
11	Devising Performance Work	Internal	30
14	Voice and Speech for Performers	Internal	30

Unit	Optional specialist units	Assessment method	GLH
Group B (maximum one unit from this group)			
23	Realising Mask Design for Performance	Internal	30
24	Lighting for Performance	Internal	30
25	Sound for Performance	Internal	30
28	Make-up for Performance	Internal	30
29	Wardrobe for Stage Performance	Internal	30

QUALIFICATION	AWARD	CERTIFICATE
INTERNAL	75%	75%
EXTERNAL	25% (UNIT 1)	25% (UNIT 1 & 8)



Additional Extra-Curricular activities within the Performing Arts dept.;

1-2-1 Music Tuition- Peripatetic music lessons include vocal, drums, flute, saxophone and guitar lessons.



Future Voices - The school's singing group meet every Monday after school.

We sing chart songs, mix ups and original arrangements. We sing at the Village Green Music festival, Southend Music Services concert and at our School's Open Evening.

Annual School Production - Each year the production club produces a musical; recent performances have included an original adaptation of Oliver, Schools We Will Rock You, Lion King, Wizard of Oz and Hairspray, and SLICK.

Modern British Value

British values are intrinsic to the work that we do in the Drama curriculum. Working in groups; co-operation, motivation and respect is the basis of the learning, which encourages the students to develop patience and esteem within themselves and towards others. The topics we cover celebrate, highlight and acknowledge historical events, British theatre, playwrights and film giving the students a breadth of knowledge and understanding of the country that they live in. The combination of self-discovery supported by the rich history, culture and performance art that we have in Britain provides students with a well-rounded subject to enjoy and learn from.

Staff Contact:

Miss J Cassar
Email: jcassar@futures.uk.com
Head of Performing Arts

Ms J Chapman
Teacher of Music

