Performing Arts

CURRICULUM INTENT

STOCKSBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

"I regard the theatre as the greatest of arts forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being." - Oscar Wilde

The importance of Performing Arts in education cannot be overemphasised. It has been proven that people involved in Performing Arts are able to engage the mind, emotions, and body in ways that allow them to properly flow through real-life situations with empathy, understanding, emotional intelligence, and confidence, as well as to communicate with their varying counterparts.
The UK's creative industries contribute over £100billion value to the economy yearly and is one of the fastest growing industries in the country. Even more importantly, more than two million people work in creative industries which demonstrates that this is a vibrant sector with many opportunities to develop a successful future career.
We aim to develop students to love the creative outlet Performing Arts affords them, whilst also providing valuable transferable skills. Improve their confidence and ability to stand in front of other people whilst presenting themselves in their best light is essential for interviews and any form of public speaking. Students are encouraged to be critical and verbalise their ability to identify positives and negatives in a constructive way and most importantly, supporting emotional well-being through their ability to participate in nerve wracking situations and walk away from them with an immense feeling of pride that their hard work was all worth it.
The performing arts curriculum at Stocksbridge High School, be it drama or music, is well-rounded, allowing children to get up on a stage and share their art with numerous people. Students develop confidence in navigating the stage, and are encouraged to hone their craft positively, developing understanding of collaborative performance creation as well as their own skills. Emphasis is always placed on being kind and empathetic towards the feeling of others and reflecting upon how the work can be improved in order to be more successful.

We want to nurture the passion, imagination and inquisitive nature of the students of Stocksbridge and encourage their ability to be confident, resilient and work successfully with others. This will arm them with the skills to go out into the world and thrive.

Drama
Our Drama curriculum enables all students to gain confidence in devising and performing, evaluating and making decisions about creative intentions. The curriculum also develops students' ability to be effective communicators, leaders and problem solvers confidently applying these skills to other areas of the curriculum, the wider school community and life beyond school.
By the end of Year 11 students will have gained an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the processes and techniques required to create theatre performance and effectively undertake roles and responsibilities in the Performing Arts industry. They will be able to analyse and evaluate their own use of performance skills, identify areas for improvement and explain in detail how they link to creative intentions.
Throughout KS3 students the curriculum is designed to ensure that students become highly skilled in Stage Craft, Group Skills, Drama Techniques/Conventions, Performing Characters and Staying in Role to meet creative intentions.

The KS3 curriculum creates the bedrock which will allow students to be able to understand and apply concepts in the following areas at KS4 in the BTEC Level 1/2 Award in Performing Arts: Exploring the Performing Arts; Developing Skills and Techniques; Performing to a Brief

Music
Our Music curriculum is focused on practical music-making, including composition, rehearsal, and performance. Students will learn through a wide variety of topics, developing vocal, instrumental, composition, and improvisation skills. In addition, they will explore notation techniques and develop their understanding of the key musical elements: rhythm, melody, harmony, tonality, structure, dynamics, texture and timbre. The acquired skills and understanding will enable the students to engage in meaningful and rewarding composition/performance projects, gaining confidence in their abilities and offering them opportunities for expression and creativity. A focus on small group and paired activities enhances important life skills, including communication, teamwork and leadership.
At Key Stage 3 students will develop their skills in the following areas: Play and Perform; Improvise and Compose; Reading and Writing Music; Music IT and Listening and Analysis
The skills taught at KS3 will be further developed at KS4 in order for students to complete the BTEC Level 1/2 Award in Performing Arts with the following components: Exploring Music Product and Styles; Music Skills Development and Responding to a Music Brief.

The delivery of our curriculum content, in both Music and Drama and at both Key Stages, allows all students to fully participate in the creative process. We have developed different ways of presenting information from power points containing SEND non-negotiables to practical exploration, allowing students to use both body and mind to embed learning. The same approach is taken with assessment, with live marking used to gage students' understanding along with practical performance, differentiated written evaluation and interactive questioning.