



DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre

Whole school Curriculum INTENT

Our curriculum aims are underpinned by our values:

Our goal is for Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre to be a thriving and supportive community underpinned by mutual respect. We strive for excellence by providing a challenging, stimulating, creative and diverse learning environment that enables us all to become the best we can be.

Drama INTENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

In **Drama** we:

Our drama curriculum is designed to inspire creativity, build confidence, and develop essential life skills in students aged 11-18. Through engaging practical exploration and critical reflection, students will experience a rich and diverse curriculum that nurtures their artistic expression and deepens their understanding of performance as a powerful form of storytelling and communication.

We aim to:

- Develop Creative Thinkers – Encouraging students to generate ideas, experiment with dramatic techniques, and explore a range of theatrical styles, traditions, and practitioners.
- Foster Confident Communicators – Building verbal and non-verbal communication skills, teamwork, and leadership through performance, devising, and script work.
- Encourage Empathy and Emotional Intelligence – Using drama as a tool for students to explore different perspectives, cultures, and social issues, promoting a deeper understanding of the world around them.
- Enhance Performance and Technical Skills – Providing opportunities to develop acting techniques, characterisation, vocal and physical expression, as well as an introduction to stagecraft, directing, and technical theatre.
- Promote Collaboration and Resilience – Supporting students in working effectively as part of an ensemble, problem-solving creatively, and embracing constructive feedback to refine their work.

By the end of their drama education, students will have developed not only performance and analytical skills but also transferable life skills such as confidence, adaptability, and the ability to think creatively and critically—preparing them for a wide range of future opportunities both within and beyond the arts.

KS4 Drama

At Key Stage 4, aligned with the AQA GCSE Drama specification, our programme nurtures students' ability to explore, create, and evaluate drama, building essential performance and analytical skills that extend beyond the classroom.

We aim to:

- **Develop Creative and Theatrical Skills** – Enabling students to engage with a wide range of performance styles, devising techniques, and dramatic texts, fostering their ability to create original and compelling work.
- **Deepen Understanding of Theatre and Performance** – Introducing students to influential theatre practitioners, theatrical genres, and styles, while developing their ability to interpret, perform, and critically evaluate drama.
- **Support Rigorous Analysis and Critical Thinking** – Encouraging students to articulate and justify their creative choices, analyse professional theatre productions, and develop a sophisticated understanding of dramatic structure and performance techniques.
- **Prepare Students for AQA GCSE Drama Assessments** – Equipping students with the skills required for:
 - **Component 1:** Understanding Drama – Exploring play texts, theatre roles, and live theatre evaluation.
 - **Component 2:** Devising Drama – Creating and performing original work while documenting and evaluating the creative process.
 - **Component 3:** Texts in Practice – Interpreting and performing key extracts from a published script.
- **Promote Confidence, Collaboration, and Resilience** – Supporting students in developing teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills, essential both in drama and in life.

Through this curriculum, students will leave with a passion for performance, a strong understanding of theatre as an art form, and valuable transferable skills for further study and a range of career pathways.

Drama in the 6th Form

Our drama and performing arts curriculum is designed to inspire creativity, develop confidence, and provide students with the skills and knowledge to succeed in both the creative industries and beyond. By offering, in Key Stage 5, the Pearson BTEC Extended Certificate in Performing Arts, we ensure a broad and balanced education that caters to a diverse range of learners, supporting both academic and vocational pathways.

We aim to:

- Develop Creative and Practical Skills – Encouraging students to explore acting, devising, performance, and technical theatre through a combination of scripted and original work.
- Support Theoretical Understanding and Critical Analysis – Equipping students with the ability to evaluate theatre, analyse professional performances, and articulate creative intentions clearly.
- Prepare for Success in BTEC Performing Arts – Providing vocational training through practical performance, industry-based assignments, and reflective coursework, including:
 - Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners' Work
 - Unit 2: Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance
 - Unit 3: Group Performance Workshop
 - Optional Unit: Specialising in acting, movement, or other performance areas
- Foster Independence and Professionalism – Teaching students industry expectations, including rehearsal discipline, self-reflection, and collaborative problem-solving.
- Enhance Employability and Future Opportunities – Equipping students with transferable skills such as communication, teamwork, resilience, and adaptability, preparing them for higher education or careers in the creative sector.

Through this curriculum, students will develop as confident performers, reflective practitioners, and creative thinkers, gaining a strong foundation in drama and performing arts that supports their future aspirations.

Extra-Curricular Intent Statement

Our extra-curricular Drama provision aims to enrich students' cultural, social, and personal development through diverse and inclusive opportunities beyond the classroom. We intend to:

- Foster creativity and self-expression by offering a wide range of performance opportunities, including school productions, clubs, competitions, and workshops.
- Develop confidence, teamwork, and communication skills, empowering students to take creative risks in a supportive environment.
- Promote inclusivity and access for all students, regardless of experience or background, encouraging participation across all year groups.
- Enhance curriculum learning by extending and deepening students' understanding of theatrical styles, practitioners, and performance techniques.

- Inspire a love of theatre and the arts, cultivating lifelong appreciation and engagement with cultural experiences.

Annual School Musical – Intent Statement

The Annual School Musical is a cornerstone of our extra-curricular Drama provision, designed to provide an inclusive, high-quality performance experience for students of all abilities and year groups. Through this flagship event, we aim to:

- Celebrate and nurture talent in performance, design, and technical theatre by involving students in acting, singing, dancing, stage management, costume, lighting, and sound.
- Develop essential life skills such as confidence, collaboration, discipline, and resilience through the rehearsal and production process.
- Foster a sense of community and belonging, creating a shared purpose that brings together students, staff, and families from across the school.
- Enhance cultural capital by exposing students to a broad range of musical theatre texts and styles, often rooted in professional practice.
- Bridge the gap between curriculum and industry, encouraging students to aspire toward further study or careers in the performing arts.
- Ensure accessibility and inclusivity, providing opportunities for all students, regardless of prior experience, to participate and thrive.

Theatre Trips – Intent Statement

Our programme of theatre trips is designed to broaden students' horizons and deepen their appreciation of live performance. These experiences are an essential part of our extra-curricular Drama offer, intended to:

- Enrich students' cultural capital by exposing them to a wide range of professional theatre, including classic texts, contemporary works, and diverse theatrical styles.
- Support and extend classroom learning, particularly for examination courses, by giving students the opportunity to experience live productions that directly link to their study of performance and evaluation.

- Inspire creative ambition by showcasing the standards and possibilities of professional practice in acting, design, and direction.
- Encourage critical thinking and reflection, enabling students to analyse and discuss theatrical choices in a real-world context.
- Foster a love of theatre, building lifelong engagement with the arts and strengthening the connection between school and the broader cultural landscape.