



Drama CURRICULUM MAP

YEAR 9

Half Term 1: Script Work – Hairspray Pupils will learn; <u>Introduction to Hairspray</u> Plot overview Tracy Turnblad dreams of dancing on TV, challenges beauty standards, and fights for racial integration.- Context 1960s Baltimore – Civil Rights Movement, segregation, women’s rights. Themes discrimination, body image, social justice, ambition, music & dance as empowerment. Style high-energy, comic, but with serious undertones <u>Exploring Characterisation</u> Character study Tracy (optimism, resilience), Link (celebrity/identity), Motormouth Maybelle (activism), Edna (self-acceptance) Themes stereotypes & challenging them. Analysis how <i>Hairspray</i> exaggerates yet humanises characters. <u>Scripted Extract: Dance Audition</u> Tracey auditions for the Corny Collins show Themes Body Image, ambition, rejection, comedy vs realism Analysis How Musical Theatre exaggerated physicality <u>Voice, Movement & Teenage Identity</u> Musical style larger-than-life vocal and physical choices. Voice analysis Tracy’s energy vs Velma’s authority vs Motormouth’s power. Movement 1960s dance styles (twist, pony) Theme self-expression through music/dance		Hairspray – The script HAIRSPRAY.pages (thalian.org)
		Pupils will complete an analysis of the context and themes that underpin the storyline of <i>Hairspray</i>
		Key Words Civil Rights - The basic rights and freedoms that every person should have, such as equality, freedom of speech, and fair treatment under the law. Segregation - When people are kept apart because of their race, religion, or other differences. Discrimination - Unfair treatment of someone just because of who they are (e.g., their race, gender, appearance, or disability) Activism - Taking action to create change, especially against unfair treatment or laws. Stereotypes - An oversimplified and often unfair idea about a group of people. Oppression - When a group of people is controlled or treated unfairly by those in power for a long time.
		Career Links – Students to learn the skills required to become an actor through script reading and character development within different styles of theatre. Addresses skills within the performing arts
Half Term 2: Script Work – Hairspray Pupils will learn; <u>Exploring Tension & Conflict</u> Extract protest march & confrontation with authority.- Themes justice vs oppression, young people as changemakers. Analysis		Hairspray – The script HAIRSPRAY.pages (thalian.org)
		Pupils will complete a practical assessment in which they are to perform an extract of the <i>Hairspray</i> script



staging conflict scenes in musical theatre (contrast upbeat music vs serious issue). <u>Rehearsal Techniques (Stanislavski & Brecht)</u> Stanislavski objectives & subtext (e.g., Tracy's determination).- Brecht comedy & direct address (e.g., Velma breaking "gloss" of showbiz) Analysis <i>Hairspray</i> as hybrid – realistic characters within exaggerated style. <u>Performance Extract</u> Performance focus polishing extracts for clarity & impact. Skills projection, timing, musicality, audience connection Theme delivering social message through entertainment. <u>Assessment</u> Performance of Script		Key Words Civil Rights - The basic rights and freedoms that every person should have, such as equality, freedom of speech, and fair treatment under the law. Segregation - When people are kept apart because of their race, religion, or other differences. Discrimination - Unfair treatment of someone just because of who they are (e.g., their race, gender, appearance, or disability) Activism - Taking action to create change, especially against unfair treatment or laws. Stereotypes - An oversimplified and often unfair idea about a group of people. Oppression - When a group of people is controlled or treated unfairly by those in power for a long time.
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HALF TERM 3: TV Film and Acting What are the differences between Stage and TV Acting? Stage Acting - Lines/ script need to be rehearsed well in advance. - No second chances when performing - Projection is key / variety of audiences / venue - Intervals - Feedback given at the end - Break in career to search for other opportunity. - Live audition - Multiple roles TV acting - Lines / Script need to be rehearsed. - Script can be looked at briefly before filming - Microphones are used so no need to project voice - Digital editing - Direction and feedback given imminently.	  	<u>Stage Acting vs. Film Acting: What's the Difference? Backstage</u> <u>What is the difference between film and television acting (gkftii.com)</u> Pupils will complete a practical assessment in which they are to learn a script for a mock audition. The script is from a TV soap 'Doctors' Key Words Script – The written text of a play, including dialogue, stage directions, and character actions. Direction – The process of guiding the creative and technical aspects of a performance, led by the director. Method Acting – An acting technique where actors deeply immerse themselves in their characters, drawing on personal emotions and experiences. Naturalism – A style of theatre aiming to create a realistic and believable portrayal of life on stage.



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- Method acting. - Contracted / filmed in advance (Look for other opportunities) The acting pay gap – How does pay differ between stage and TV? The Casting Process - What would you expect to do during this process? - What is Casting?		Projection – The ability to make the voice loud and clear enough to be heard by the entire audience. Emotions – Feelings expressed by actors to bring their characters to life and connect with the audience.
<u>Personal Traits required</u> ‘The best years of my life’ – Audition Pupils will learn an extract from the script for a mock audition Pupils required to focus on; - Character - the storyline - surroundings - context. Continuity in TV - Continuity is essential in screen acting. - This can be costume, hair, set, props and characters. - The scenes need to look like they run on from each other, when in reality they were probably filmed at lots of different times! - Films and TV shows must create a sense of reality, despite the fact that there are multiple people on set doing multiple different jobs. Errors in continuity break the sense of reality, reminding the audience that it is actors playing roles on a simulated set! <u>Rehearsed Reading – Doctors Script</u> Assessment – Audition Performance of ‘Best years of my life’ <u>Homework</u> Lesson 1 1. What is an audition? 2. Why must you know your character well? 3. Who gets a better wage, stage or screen actors? 4. What is the “casting process”? 5. What might you be asked to do in an audition? 6. Name 3 differences between screen and stage acting Lesson 2		Career links – Acting – The unit gives students the understanding and skills required to take part in auditions for TV acting



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1. What are the features required to focus on when learning a script? 2. Name 3 features of Continuity in TV? Lesson 3 1. Rehearse Audition Assessment Piece		
Half Term 4: Improvisation What does improvisation mean? What key skills are required when we improvise? When do we improvise in life? key skills and their importance in depth. 1. Use of imagination and memory 2. Communication 3. Listening 4. Memory 5. Taking direction 6. Leading 7. Supportive 8. Vocality 9. Physicality 10. Creativity 11. Spatial Awareness 12. Team Work and inclusivity Application of Improv skills into activities of; - Who's story - 4 Part Drama - Where am I? What are the key features of Improvisation? Improv rules are: 1. Say "yes, and!" 2. Add new information. 3. Don't block. 4. Avoid asking questions- unless you're also adding information. 5. Play in the present and use the moment. 6. Establish the location. 7. Be specific and provide details. 8. For serious and emotional scenes, focus on characters and relationships. 9. For humorous scenes focus on actions/objects Application of these rules in; - Space Jump - It's time Key Aspects of Characterisation in Improvisation - - Physicality: Using body language, posture, physicality and gestures to create a physical representation of the character. Voice: Modifying vocal qualities, including pitch, tone, speed, and accent, to suit the character.		Improvisation Theater Production Class Notes Fiveable Fiveable Approaching Drama Tasks: Improvisation (trinitycollege.co.uk)
		Students will create a final piece of work based of scenarios, objects and characters in groups
		Key Words Memory – Remembering lines, blocking, and character details so the performance stays consistent and flows smoothly. Taking Direction – Adjusting performance based on feedback or instructions from a director or teacher to better serve the scene. Leading – Driving the scene forward by making bold choices, offering new ideas, or setting the tone for others to follow. Vocality – Using pitch, pace, volume, tone, and clarity to communicate character, emotion, and atmosphere effectively to the audience. Physicality – Expressing character and meaning through body language, movement, gesture, and use of space. Spatial Awareness – Knowing where you and others are on stage, using levels, distance, and positioning to tell the story clearly to the audience.
		This provides skills for performing arts careers as either an actor or performing in theatre



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Psychological Traits: Exploring the character's internal world, such as their motivations, desires, fears, and personality. Social Context: Considering the character's relationships and their place within the scene's setting. Educate or Entertain – What is the purpose of this in theatre? Discuss practitioners who would entertain or educate. Brecht/Boal/Manuel What is Stimulus? What is a starting point? Use of Examples for addressing. For Example – Unfair treatment in the work place, Alcoholism, Teenage pregnancy, homelessness, drug abuse Assessment The students are to pick from one of the scenarios or stimulus, an objective and a character with a clear beginning, middle and end. Each group of 4/5 has a scenario, an objective and set characters		
HALF TERM 5 –Naturalism <u>What are the Key features of Melodrama?</u> - Gestures - Exaggeration - Overdramatic Emotions - Stereotyped characters - Good Vs Evil <u>Practical Task</u> - Freeze frames of Melodrama Scenarios <u>Who is Konstantin Stanislavski?</u> - Russian practitioner, Konstantin Stanislavski's ideas are very influential. - He believed in naturalistic performances that were as realistic as possible, and invented techniques that you can use; 1. WHAT IF/MAGIC IF 2. Given circumstance 3. Emotional Memory 4. Wants What makes a Performance Naturalistic? - The way you speak - Way you move - How would you react if you were not acting? Practical Task - How would your body move? - What sounds would you make? - What would your facial expressions be? - What would you say?		The Stanislavsky Technique: an Actor's Guide Backstage Naturalism and realism - Naturalism and Stanislavski - GCSE Drama Revision - WJEC - BBC Bitesize Pupils will complete a role on the wall for a character in their monologue. They will complete a practical assessment in performance of a monologue in the form of Naturalism Key Words Gestures – Movements of the hands, arms, or body used to express ideas or emotions in performance. Given Circumstance – The specific details about the character's world and situation that influence their behaviour, such as time, place, and relationships. Emotional Memory – An acting technique where actors recall personal memories to bring authentic emotions to their performance. Emotions – Feelings expressed by characters and actors to make a performance believable and engaging. Naturalistic – A style of acting or theatre that strives to portray life realistically and truthfully on stage. Career Links – Students to learn the skills required to become an actor through script reading and character development within different styles of theatre. Addresses skills within the performing arts



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Naturalistic Monologue - Group reading of monologue - How can you make it naturalistic? Creating a Role on the Wall for your character Assessment – Performance of Monologue using Naturalism Homework Lesson 1 – - Who is Stainslavski? - What are the 4 techniques that he invented to make a performance Naturalistic? Lesson 2 – What 4 features would you aim to include to make your piece naturalistic? Lesson 3 – - Rehearse monologue with Naturalistic features for assessment		
HALF TERM 6: Physical Theatre Physical Theatre Techniques; Mime – This usually means stylised movement but can be comparatively realistic. Gesture – A gesture may be something small but can have emotional impact or it can be a particular movement that defines a character. Status – This may be executed by use of levels or by distance or strength of contact, or a combination of all of these with voice work. Proximity – How close or far you are from your co-performers can be a source of very powerful impact. For example, the threatening gangster who speaks to his victim from a distance of perhaps a couple of inches. Stance – This is associated with strength as the body could radiate assertion and authority or weakness by stance, incorporating posture. Harshness and tenderness - Used here as umbrella terms to focus on the fact that in physical work the gestures and bigger movements come together to express the emotions of the piece. Movement - Every movement needs to be rehearsed with precision. Not moving – If the stage is full of characters moving, immobility can have a powerful effect. Mask work - The impact of a mask is visual and without the facial features to show action, movement becomes an even more central performance instrument. Dance work – Don't be afraid to include dance in your work; you don't have to be an experienced dancer. 'Dad dancing' can work well in a comedy for instance!		GCSE English Literature / Drama: What is Physical Theatre? - BBC Teach
		Students will devise a piece of Physical Theatre from a Stimulus
		Key Words Physical Theatre – A style of performance that uses the body and physical movement as the main way to tell a story or express ideas. Mime – A form of physical theatre where the performer tells a story or expresses emotion without speaking, using only body movements and facial expressions. Gesture – A deliberate movement of the body or limbs that communicates meaning or emotion. Status – The relative social or power position a character holds, which influences how they behave and interact with others on stage. Proximity – The physical distance between characters on stage, which can show relationships like intimacy or conflict. Stance – The way a character stands or positions their body, often revealing their attitude, mood, or personality. Movement – Any physical action or motion performed by actors to convey meaning or emotion.



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Motif – This is repeated use of a movement pattern which has meaning and reminds us of the central theme of the work. Frantic Assembly – Devising Techniques Round by Through - This is a physical theatre technique which focuses solely on movement, specifically 3 movements ‘round’, ‘by’ and ‘Through’ Hymns Hands - This technique is similar to Round By Through in which you will devise premeditated movements. These will focus on the use of your Hands, Arms and Shoulders. You will stand opposite your partner and move their hands and arms or your hands and arms to place them on a part of your arms or shoulders. You will pick 3 movements, your partner will then follow with 3 movements of their choice. Chair Duets - This technique devised by Frantic Assembly in which the idea of Hymns hands and Round by through have been included whilst sat down on chairs. You sit facing forward – the first person devises 3 movements, this is followed by the other person devising 3 movements. This can be extended to 1 person switching out with a new person Devising a Piece from a Stimulus – Creating a piece from a picture DV8 – Physical movements – David Toole Assessment – Creating your own piece with the use of at least one of the Frantic Assembly Pieces Homework Lesson 1 – Revise the key terms of Physical Theatre - Mime - Gesture - Status - Proximity. - Stance - Harshness and tenderness - Movement - Not moving - Mask work - Dance work - What is Frantic Assembly? - What is round by through? Lesson 2 – How can you devise physical theatre from a stimulus? - Who are DV8? - Who is David Toole? Lesson 3 –		Students develop their skills in performing in front of other people.
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- Rehearse Physical theatre piece for assessment		
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