

# Year 7 Autumn Term – Drama Knowledge Organiser

## Expectations and content - What is each unit about and why do we teach them?

Unit 1: It Was Terrifying – In this first unit in Year 7, students will consider the question “How does it feel to be the new arrival?”. Students will explore the poem “It Was Terrifying” through a range of practical drama activities, beginning to understand the process of **improvisation** and drama techniques such as **freeze frame** and **monologue**.

Unit 2: Charlotte Dymond – In this unit, students will investigate the murder of Charlotte Dymond. They will respond to **teacher-in-role** to question the teacher and extract information to help them with their investigation. Students will use **thought tracking** to create and develop detailed characters with a past and opinions.

## Drama skills

Vocal skills (the way an actor communicates using their voice)

- Volume
- Tone
- Pitch



Physical skills (the way an actor communicates using their body)

- Body Language
- Facial Expression



## If your child needs support

### **Suggested activities to help:**

- Storyboard the events of your drama piece to show what happens in each scene and which characters appear.
- Create a factfile for each character including key scenes and their involvement in your play.
- Complete home learning tasks set.
- Mirror: To practice vocal acting skills, watch a video/film of an actor you like. Try to copy the way that the actor speaks. When you are happy, try this with a range of actors. Take the best skills from each actor and create your own unique style!

## Dramatic techniques and conventions

- Improvisation – Drama is created spontaneously. A rehearsed improvisation can then be performed.
- Freeze Frame – A still image, where the actors freeze to highlight a particular moment in time.
- Monologue – One actor, speaking directly to the audience to reveal their inner thoughts and feelings.
- Thought Tracking – A characters reveals what they are thinking to the audience, speaking their thoughts aloud.

## If your child needs extension

### **Challenging activities to complete:**

- Create a role on the wall for each character.
- Write a short script for a chosen drama piece performed in class.
- Write a monologue for a chosen character.

### **Suggested further reading or research:**

Drama is a good way to practice your speaking and listening skills. Scan the QR code and have a look at the BBC Bitesize revision pages for Drama here.

