



Key Stage: 3

Subject: Drama

Aims of the subject: Drama at Ripley is taught through a mix of exploration, imagination and enthusiasm! The classroom is established as a safe and supportive learning environment in which pupils use a whole host of explorative strategies such as:

- Still Images
- Thought-tracking
- Role Play
- Mime
- Teacher-in-Role
- Narration
- Hot seating (to name but a few) in order to build skills, create work, explore stimuli and challenge opinions.

Lessons are a mix of solo and group-work (both large and small) and pupils are encouraged to express themselves, sharing and appraising each other's work on a regular basis. There is a long tradition of school productions which pupils are encouraged to be a part of, each one tailored for the different key stages.

Year 8	What will I learn?	What will I do?
Half term 1 Physical Theatre (Goldilocks)	The basics of Physical Theatre and how to tell a story using just your body	Use your body to explore the variations of Physical Theatre
Half term 2 Characterisation (Bugsy Malone)	Learn how to create a variety of roles from stock/stereotypical characters	Exercises designed to get the creative juices flowing as far as character creating goes

Half term 3 Improvisation (Park Bench)	How to perform without the use of script in front of an audience (spontaneously) and for creating material (polished)	Exercises to stretch your creative thinking and ensure you do not always rely on others in performance situations
Half term 4 Mime (The Getaway)	What mime is and why it is so important – how to convey meaning to an audience without using the spoken word	Exercises to improve your exaggeration ability
Half term 5 Commedia dell'arte (The Robbery)	What commedia dell'arte is and its origins. How a small variety of characters can be used to create a huge range of stories	Perform as a variety of characters and improvise scenes with other pupils
Half term 6 Scriptwork (Ricky Brown/Ann Maguire)	How to use script properly. Learning how to remember script and where to look for clues in the text for understanding.	Read script and become a character, exploring the issues surrounding the script.

Extra-curricular opportunities

We have a KS3 production every other year, specifically for pupils from years 7-9. This will also coincide with the SSF (Shakespeare Schools Festival), in which Ripley is allowed to enter 30 participants – we welcome pupils from every Key Stage for this event.

How you can support your child's progress

A lot of what pupils do in KS3 is practical based. Pupils are encouraged to rehearse in their own time and to practise – especially near to an assessment event – these take place at the end of each half-term. For those pupils who can stay behind after school, the Drama classroom and hall can be used. For those pupils who are unable to stay behind after school to rehearse, both lunchtimes and break times are appropriate times for rehearsals to take place.