



Our vision for the Creative Arts Faculty is to work with students, encouraging them to be able to use imagination and critical thinking skills, reflecting and commenting on their work and the work of others, with confidence and skill. To not be afraid to share ideas and opinions, understand and use transferable skills and 'think outside the box'.

We want students within the Creative Arts to take risks, be independent, thoughtful, and flexible learners. Creativity and creative teaching makes learning fun and increases student engagement and performance.

Within the Arts we strive to make cultural and creative links, promoting acceptance and tolerance by exploring different views and opinions through the Arts.

We have a huge range of creative opportunities at Oxford Spires Academy. In Year 7, 8 and 9 all students receive an hour of Drama every week. At KS3 our subjects are 'hands on' and very practical encouraging the students to participate and experience Creative Arts first-hand.

Our spiral curriculum means skills are taught and then revisited over the two years, to consolidate the knowledge, skills and understanding students need for GCSE.

KS4

Students have 2 hours of Drama a week – allowing them to fully explore and develop their creative potential.

In Year 10 and Year 11 we follow the Edexcel Specification. Students create a piece of original drama, take part in a scripted performance and study a text in-depth that forms their component 3 exam. Everything that we teach is rooted in practical exploration and encourages the students to understand and reflect on the process of creation and rehearsal.



KS3

In Drama we have a one-hour lesson every week – during this time we explore a wide range of topics;

- The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe - thinking about how to develop characters from a script
- West Side Story and Conflict – using both script and stimuli material to develop an understanding of conflict and the dynamic of a gang and how we physically show this on stage.
- Greek Theatre - specifically looking at the importance of storytelling in different cultures.

In Year 8 and 9 we continue to refine the skills of characterisation through Vocal Expression, Facial Expression, Gesture and Body Language. Exploring Drama through devising tasks and scripted work. We explore a range of stimuli – The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time, Teachers, a range of Shakespearean texts and Blood Brothers.

We focus on character, situation, physicality, audience engagement and awareness and rapport - critical skills for GCSE.



I love drama because it's fun to be different in characters and it's a step outside my comfort zone" - Anna Constantine

I love Drama because it's active and creative and different to most subjects" - Year 10 Student

I like drama because it involves lots of different activities and you get to try out lots of different techniques that you can have lots of fun with." - Flo Hadfield

KS5

To follow Drama and Theatre or LAMDA Acting/Musical Theatre post-sixteen, you are strongly encouraged to have studied Drama for GCSE and achieved a minimum of a Grade 6.

In Year 12 and Year 13 we follow the Edexcel Specification and further develop and refine the skills learnt in KS4. The teaching/learning time significantly increasing to nine hours per fortnight and students are really encouraged to work, rehearse, explore, develop and refine ideas independently. The creative possibilities are endless and students are encouraged to see, experience and get involved in as many theatre opportunities as they can, both independently and through school opportunities.

After completing an A level in Drama you can go on to do many different things following a University pathway or Apprenticeship route. Drama has many transferable skills or 'Graduate Attributes' that universities and employers' value. Students may go into Barrister, Broadcast Journalist, Promotions and PR, Arts Administrator, Theatre Manager/Booker, Media.

OSCA - Extra Curricular at Oxford Spires

In addition to the academic opportunities students can get involved in a wide range of extra curricular and enrichment opportunities. Normally drama run regular trips to theatres in Oxford and London to broaden students' experiences and ideas.

The team of Arts Leaders support events, inspiring younger students with their talent, commitment and dedication. Oxford Spires Academy Creative Arts department has amazing facilities Two purpose-built studios, one equipped with sound and lighting for Drama and one equipped with sound, lighting and mirrors for Dance, plus the Theatre and Conference Hall.

Students from Year 7 to Year 13 have access to these spaces and are encouraged to use them to get creative!

