Drama has the capacity to engage, inspire and enrich all students, exciting the imagination and encouraging them to reach their creative and expressive potential. Drama is a collaborative art, combining physical, verbal, visual and oral dimensions. Drama enhances personal and interpersonal skills developing emotional relationships, negotiation and conflict resolution skills. In drama students will experience theatre and develop an understanding of the performer/audience relationship. Learning in drama can be both process and performance. Students will combine the elements of drama to make, present and respond to representations of human situations, characters, behaviour and relationships.

The study of Drama ensures that students:

- understand how the elements of drama and levels of energy create meaningful drama through the use of character transformation and storytelling.
- develop creativity, critical thinking, aesthetic knowledge and understanding about theatre practices through rehearsing, performing and responding to dramatic works with increasing self-confidence.
- use their life experiences to express and communicate ideas, explore the imaginative world and observe people to inform their development of character.
- develop a language of drama to express, problem solve, direct, collaborate and critique their own and other’s work.
- have an understanding of local, regional and global cultures through the study of drama history, traditions, styles and methods.
- use a variety of technological mediums to create meaning within dramatic performance.
COURSE ORGANISATION:

Year 7: Take a Bow!

An active and exciting unit, full of fun. Students learn about movement and voice in theatre through games, activities and short script reading and performances. They improvise, plan, devise and perform short pieces, learning to work as an ensemble.

Year 8: Exit Stage Right!

This unit is creative and expressive with a focus on the body. Students explore how their bodies move in space and their relationships with others. They experience a range of character emotions and intentions through Physical Theatre, short group devised and text based performance pieces.

Assessment

Teaching and learning in Drama is centred upon the three strands of Exploring/Forming, Creating/Performing, Responding/Reflecting.

Assessment is focused on student understanding and skills in;
- **Exploring** through research and group work and **Forming** through warmup and activity work.
- **Creating** scripts and improvising new work for performance with audience
- **Responding** to live theatre and peer performance through discussions and essays.
- **Reflecting** on learning through drama journal entries.