

Key Stage 3

Curriculum Excellence

Drama



The curriculum enables children to... acquire... **Knowledge & Skills**, which secured through... **Application** develops... **Understanding** and allows them to seek... **Meaning** and achieve... **Personal growth**

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Cabot Learning Federation

CLF KS3 Curriculum Principles

- The curriculum enables children to acquire **knowledge and skills**, which are secured through **application** (over time and in different contexts) to develop **understanding** (change in long term memory) and allows children to seek **meaning** and achieve **personal growth**.
- Built-up from KS2 to secure a foundation for young people for life (... and KS4). Based on Age Related Expectations and using DOYA. (Not built down from KS4).
- Focused on the **progression of content and concepts** through the KS3 curriculum that accelerates progress within a **progressive and purposeful 3-19 CLF Curriculum.**
- The curriculum is our opportunity to inspire children to be successful individuals, historians, mathematicians, geographers, musicians, authors, artist, sportspeople, scientists, writers, innovators, dreamers, magicians, mothers, fathers, positive citizens.
- On a platform of standardisation the curriculum releases teachers to drive up learning and progress. **Standardised Age Related Expectations, curriculum and assessment** frees and empowers experts to collaborate, follow the learning and teach.
- The curriculum will be **curated by subject experts and teams from across the Trust** who are empowered to evolve the curriculum that will allow all children to thrive.
- The content of the curriculum is progressive and is based on **consolidating and revisiting** content over time to secure progress over time.
- The curriculum seeks **depth of study rather than breadth** to build understanding and to seek meaning; stretching and challenging children to think.
- The Age Related Expectations and exemplars are **widely published** to support child, parent, teacher, leader and other staff understanding of the expected standards and the content of the curriculum, **enabling wider ownership of the curriculum**
- Two key areas of assessment:
 - Shared on-line MCQ assessments four times a year to assess knowledge/skills acquisition and elements of
 application and understanding. Immediate feedback from on-line supports understanding of gaps and re-teaching.
 - **Teacher assessment of learning that uses standardised exemplar material** to assess agreed subject written responses/assessments, supporting teachers to make a broad assessment of children's attainment against DOYA.
- Given the shared AREs and assessment cycle teachers are freed to **plan to meet need** and support all children to feel and be successful. Approaches to **pedagogy are based on cognitive science**:
 - Supporting children to experience **desirable difficulty** and grapple with learning in their proximal zone.
 - Explicitly secure **knowledge and skills** through **application** to build **understanding and seek meaning**
 - Specificity of feedback for impact and the developed and precise use of modelling, explanations and questioning to secure progress.
 - Emphasis on the development of reading (widely and often), oracy and quality of writing.

KS3 Drama in the Cabot Learning Federation



Communicating through performance whilst to empower students to explore the world with empathy, creativity and confidence.



ARE Descriptors

Year 7			
KS2 Prior Learning	Knowledge and Skills	Understanding	Meaning
What is the key knowledge, skills, understanding and meaning that children bring from the AREs in KS2 in this subject?	What is the key knowledge and skills that we want to pass on to children as ARE in Year 7 that build up from KS2?	What do we want children to build through the application of knowledge and skills, including key concepts and misconceptions?	What is the meaning that we want children to seek by age that supports their personal growth?
Students typically have performed in a play/leavers' assembly.	To a reasonabl e standard, students will: Perform in a range of styles.	To a reasonable standard students will: In rehearsal and development	Students are able to appreciate the power of performance in understanding the human condition.
They may be familiar with basic Drama games and improvisation skills but experience will be	Evaluate and analyse their work both orally and in writing.	time: Respond to verbal feedback to develop their work.	They will develop the ability to see the world from different perspectives.
varied.	Study a range of drama styles including: • Devised Performance	Show understanding of different styles of performance.	They will understand that human behaviour communicates meaning.
Students generally have a willingness to perform in front of an audience when they reach us	 Genres of performance Scripted performance Dramatic skills 	Use subject-specific terminology	
in Year 7.	Study a range of drama techniques including:	• Stage positioning terms (including blocking, SL, SR etc.)	
Working in groups or teams is likely to have been explicitly taught.	 Freeze-frame Step-out Narration Stock Characters 	• Physical and vocal skills (as detailed in Skills section)	



Most will have seen at least one live theatre performance whether at a neighbouring school, professional theatre or	 Split-stage Stage configurations Stage positioning Use the following performance skills: 	 Rehearsal and Development terms (such as stimuli, plot structure etc) In their written work students
via a visiting theatre company.	Physical Skills Body language Gait Gesture Mannerism Energy Posture Facial expression Vocal Skills Volume Diction Tone	 Will: Identify strengths and weaknesses in their own work and that of others. Use subject-specific terminology.



	Year 8			
Year 7 Prior Learning	Knowledge and Skills	Understanding	Meaning	
What is the key knowledge, skills, understanding and meaning that children bring from the AREs in Year 7 in this subject?	What is the key knowledge and skills that we want to pass on to children as ARE in Year 8 that build up from Year 7?	What do we want children to build through the application of knowledge and skills, including key concepts and misconceptions?	What is the meaning that we want children to seek by age that supports their personal growth?	
·	To a good standard, students will: Perform in a range of styles.	To a good standard students will: In rehearsal and development time:	Students are able to appreciate and master the power of performance in understanding the human condition.	
	Evaluate and analyse their work both orally and in writing. Study a range of drama styles including:	Respond to verbal feedback to develop their work. Show understanding of different styles of performance.	They will develop the ability to see the world from different perspectives in more challenging contexts such including historical and geographical.	
	 Devised Performance Shakespeare Dramatic skills Study a range of theatre roles including: 	Use subject-specific terminology • Stage positioning terms (including blocking, SL, SR etc.)	They will understand that human behaviour communicates meaning and be able to creatively interpret this through performance.	
	 Playwright Performer Understudy Director 	 Physical and vocal skills (as detailed in Skills section) 		
	 Stage Manager Theatre Manager Sound designer 	 Rehearsal and Development terms (such 		



• 9	Set designer	as stimuli, plot structure	
• (Costume designer	etc)	
• /	Puppet designer		
•	Technician	In their written work students will:	
Use the skills:	following performance	 Identify strengths and weaknesses in their own work and that of others. 	
Physical	l Skills		
• /	Body language	Use subject-specific	
• (Gait	terminology.	
• (Gesture		
• /	Mannerism		
• 1	Energy		
	Posture		
• /	Facial expression		
Vocal SI	kills		
• 1	Volume		
• 1	Diction		
	Tone		
	Pitch		
	Pace		
	Pause		
	Accent		
	Timing		
	Intonation		
• [Emphasis		



Curriculum and Assessment Skeleton

	Year 7				
ARE Point	1 (Terms 1-2)	2 (Terms 3-4)	3 (Terms 5-6)		
Unit Title	Technique Toolkit	Script and Character	Genre		
MCQ	(Start of Term 3)	(End of Term 4)			
	Freeze-frame	Physical Skills			
	Step-out	Body language			
	Narration	Gait			
	Split-stage	Gesture			
	Stage configurations	Mannerism			
	Stage positioning	Energy			
		Posture			
		Facial expression			
		Vocal Skills			
		Volume			
		Diction			
		Tone			
DOYA		Live Theatre Evaluation Exam (Start of	Script based exam (Term 6)		
		Term 3)			



	Year 8			
ARE Point	1 (Terms 1-2)	2 (Terms 3-4)	3 (Terms 5-6)	
Unit Title	Voice	Script (Shakespeare)	Devising from stimuli – 3 chosen from the list below: (Photos, lyrics, songs, props, video, text, theme, words etc.)	
MCQ	(Start of Term 3) Revisit Volume Diction Tone New Pitch Pace Pause Accent Timing Intonation Emphasis	(End of Term 4) Theatre roles Playwright Performer Understudy Director Stage Manager Theatre Manager Sound designer Set designer Costume designer Puppet designer Technician		
DOYA		Live Evaluation Exam (Start of Term 3)	Written exam applying skills based on Act 3 Scene 1 R&J (Term 6) One acting skills, one design skills	



Subject: Drama Unit Title: Technique		oolkit	ARE Point: 7.1
Key Essentials:		WHY are children LEARNING this?	2
Knowledge and understanding of the basic p skills that will be required throughout the D Development of a class dynamic that is proo challenging.	rama curriculum.	 To develop confidence and To learn basic stagecraft To gain control of the build work 	l communication skills ling blocks of any performance
Content:			
Weeks 1-6			
Workshops to cover the following technique	es:		
Freeze-frame			
Step-out			
Narration			
Stock characters			
Split-stage Stage configurations			
Stage positioning			
Weeks 7-9 Rehearsal period to develop a polished imp at least 3 of the taught techniques.	rovisation in which students use		
Weeks 10-12 Assessment period to allow time for quality written evaluation of their performance	final performances and a short		



An MCQ will be completed at the end of Term 1 or start of Term 2 with questions based on their understanding of the key techniques (10 questions)	
Concepts:	HOW will ORACY, READING and WRITING be developed?
Students will understand that human behaviour communicates meaning.	ORACY: Modelling of verbal feedback applied to verbal communication in performance
	READING: Understanding of key terms. MCQ is comprehension test.
Terminology and Vocabulary (subject specific and academic):	WRITING: Self-evaluation of performance using framework
<u>Stage positioning:</u> Upstage, Downstage, Stage Left, Stage Right, Centre Stage and combinations of the above.	
<u>Stage configurations</u> : Proscenium arch, end-on, traverse, thrust, in the round, promenade	
Techniques:	
Freeze-frame, Step-out, Narration, Stock characters, Split-stage, Stage configurations, Stage positioning	
Extended Response (writing, performance or product):	WHAT will PROGRESS look like in this unit?
Performance piece – at least 3 toolkit techniques Written evaluation	Moderation of recordings of assessed performance to standardise the On- Track ARE and ensure understanding of what is meant by REASONABLE in terms of performance and writing.

Subject: Drama	Unit Title: Script and Ch	aracter	ARE Point: 7.2
Key Essentials: Data collection for Live Performance Written exam in Week 5. Exam to be completed prior to this to allow time for assessment (Adapt plan as necessary)		WHY are children LEARNING this? To develop confidence and skill in performin script	ng to an audience from a
Knowledge and understanding of the successful performance	e essential skills required for a	To understand the context and subtext of verbal communication	
Development of a performance to a quality standard as laid down by the conventions of a script in practice.		To build a bank of basic drama physical and applicable both in Drama and in life	vocal skills that are
Content: Physical Skills: Body language, Gait, Gesture, Mann expression Vocal Skills Volume, Diction, Tone	nerism, Energy, Posture, Facial		
Concepts:		HOW will ORACY, READING and WRITING b	e developed?
Students are able to appreciate the power of performance in understanding the human condition. They will understand that human behaviour communicates meaning.		ORACY: Modelling of verbal feedback applied to performance. READING: Understanding of key terms. MCQ is o	
Terminology and Vocabulary (subject specific and academic): Deliberately in place to support PP students and force links across and between subjects.		WRITING: Self-evaluation of performance using response in Live Theatre Evaluation.	•



Extended Response (writing, performance or product):	WHAT will PROGRESS look like in this unit?
Live Performance Exam at the start of term	Confidence in interpreting a character through a variety of performance
Performance piece - Range of physical and vocal techniques	skills to a reasonable standard.
Written evaluation (optional)	
	Able to combine and select appropriate skills to create effects suitable to
	the context of performance.



Subject:	Unit Title:	ARE Point: 7.3	
Key Essentials: this could be lifted and the developed in greater detail to build a knowledge organiser. Sequence is key here. Content: The easy part BUT are these the 'best' things to teach and for children to learn? Is the level of challenge appropriate? What exact detail is needed here to ensure that in lessons, regardless of teacher, there is parity of experience?		the curriculum, designed to emphasise progression and challenge.	
Concepts: I think this could promote the ideas of understanding and meaning from the ARE descriptor.		HOW will ORACY, READING and WRITING be developed? It might be necessary to identify literacy and language challenges for students here. What will be needed as support? What activities will be key?	
	(subject specific and academic): PP students and force links across and		
	performance or product): This should light be a portfolio of work over time um or core amount	WHAT will PROGRESS look like in this unit? I'm really interested in the idea of standards – what does DOYA look like but also what does progress look like? What are the different routes that children might take? What does challenge look like?	

Subject:	Unit Title:		ARE Point: 7.4
Subject: Office Files: Key Essentials: this could be lifted and the developed in greater detail to build a knowledge organiser. Sequence is key here. Content: The easy part BUT are these the 'best' things to teach and for children to learn? Is the level of challenge appropriate? What exact detail is needed here to ensure that in lessons, regardless of teacher, there is parity of experience?		WHY are children LEARNING this? This is the rational (or defence) of the curriculum, designed to emphasise progression and challenge.	
Concepts: I think this could promote the ideas of understanding and meaning from the ARE descriptor.		HOW will ORACY, READING and WRITING to necessary to identify literacy and language chall What will be needed as support? What activities	lenges for students here.
• •	ry (subject specific and academic): rt PP students and force links across and		
	g, performance or product): This should might be a portfolio of work over time mum or core amount	WHAT will PROGRESS look like in this unit? idea of standards – what does DOYA look like bu look like? What are the different routes that ch does challenge look like?	ut also what does progress



Medium Term Plan



Subject: Drama	Unit Title: Voice	ARE Point: 8.1	
Key Essentials:	· · ·	WHY are children LEARNING this?	
Knowledge and understanding of how to use the voice to achieve a variety of effects, characters and geographical places.		 To develop the ability to control their voice in performan and in everyday life To empathise with characters different from themselves To challenge self-consciousness by stepping out of their comfort zone 	
Content:			
Weeks 1-6			
A number of workshops to tea	ach the following vocal skills:		
Revisit Volume, Diction, Tone			
New Pitch, Pace, Pause, Accer	nt (Cockney, RP, American, Northern),		
Timing, Intonation, Emphasis			
Week 7-9			
Rehearsal period to prepare a	polished improvisation set in the		
context of one chosen accent and making use of a range of vocal techniques.			
Weeks 10-12			
Assessment period to allow time for quality final performances and a short			
written evaluation of their perfo	rmance		
An MCQ will be completed at the end of Term 1 or start of Term 2 with questions based on their understanding of the vocal skills (10 questions)			
		HOW will ORACY, READING and WRITING be developed?	

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They will understand that human behaviour communicates meaning and be able to creatively interpret this through performance.	 ORACY: Modelling of verbal feedback applied to verbal communication in performance. Manipulation of accent and voice. READING: Understanding of key terms. MCQ is comprehension test. Use of script extracts in workshops. WRITING: Self-evaluation of performance using framework
Terminology and Vocabulary (subject specific and academic): <i>Revisit</i> Volume, Diction, Tone <i>New</i> Pitch, Pace, Pause, Accent (Cockney, RP, American, Northern), Timing, Intonation, Emphasis	
Extended Response (writing, performance or product):	WHAT will PROGRESS look like in this unit?
Performance piece - Range of vocal techniques, specific accent Written evaluation	Working towards a sustained and accurate use of vocal techniques.



Subject: Drama	Unit Title: Shakespeare		ARE Point: 8.2
ey Essentials:		WHY are children LEARNING this?	
Exposure to Shakespearean texts or scenes. Exposure to Shakespearean language. Understanding of contemporary theatre roles with an historical context.		 To gain an understanding of English cultural heritage To allow students to access challenging material and the rewards that it can bring. 	
Content: Data collection for Live Performance Written exam in Week 5. Exam to be completed prior to this to allow time for assessment (Adapt plan as necessary)		 To raise students' expectations and them to outstanding writing. 	aspirations by exposing
Weeks 1-6			
Study of scenes and extracts either from one play or a number of Shakespeare plays to familiarise students with language , plot , themes , atmosphere and characters from the plays.			
Weeks 7-9			
Rehearsal period to prepare one of the prev performance.	iously studied scenes for		
Weeks 10-12			
Assessment period to allow time for quality final performances and a short written evaluation of their performance			



Theatre roles (to be taught alongside the Shakespeare unit)	
Playwright, Performer, Understudy, Director, Stage Manager, Theatre Manager, Sound designer, Set designer, Costume designer, Puppet designer, Technician	
An MCQ will be completed at the end of Term 4 with questions based on their understanding of theatre roles (10 questions)	
Concepts:	HOW will ORACY, READING and WRITING be developed?
Students are able to appreciate and master the power of performance in understanding the human condition.	ORACY Through performance, discussion, verbal feedback
They will develop the ability to see the world from different	READING Translation and interpretation of Elizabethan language
perspectives in more challenging contexts including historical and geographical.	WRITING Evaluation of performance
Terminology and Vocabulary (subject specific and academic):	
Theatre roles	
Playwright, Performer, Understudy, Director, Stage Manager, Theatre Manager, Sound designer, Set designer, Costume designer, Puppet designer, Technician	



Elements of playtexts	
Language, plot, themes, atmosphere and characters	
Extended Response (writing, performance or product):	WHAT will PROGRESS look like in this unit?
Live Performance Exam at the start of term Performance piece - Range of vocal techniques, specific accent Written evaluation (optional)	The ability to perform and deliver lines with understanding and to convey meaning.

Subject:	Unit Title:		ARE Point: 8.3
 Key Essentials: this could be lifted and the developed in greater detail to build a knowledge organiser. Sequence is key here. Content: The easy part BUT are these the 'best' things to teach and for children to learn? Is the level of challenge appropriate? What exact detail is needed here to ensure that in lessons, regardless of teacher, there is parity of experience? 		WHY are children LEARNING this? This is the rational (or defence) of the curriculum, designed to emphasise progression and challenge.	
Concepts: I think this could promote the ideas of understanding and meaning from the ARE descriptor.		HOW will ORACY, READING and WRITING be developed? It might be necessary to identify literacy and language challenges for students here. What will be needed as support? What activities will be key?	
Terminology and Vocabulary (subject sp Deliberately in place to support PP students a between subjects.			
Extended Response (writing, performance or product): This should be the items used for DOYA, it might be a portfolio of work over time rather than one thing A minimum or core amount		WHAT will PROGRESS look like in this unit? I'm really interested in the idea of standards – what does DOYA look like but also what does progress look like? What are the different routes that children might take? What does challenge look like?	



Medium Term Plan

Subject:	Unit Title:		ARE Point: 8.4
Subject: Unit little: Key Essentials: this could be lifted and the developed in greater detail to build a knowledge organiser. Sequence is key here. Example 1 Content: The easy part BUT are these the 'best' things to teach and for children to learn? Is the level of challenge appropriate? What exact detail is needed here to ensure that in lessons, regardless of teacher, there is parity of experience?		WHY are children LEARNING this? This is the rational (or defence) of the curriculum, designed to emphasise progression and challenge.	
Concepts: I think this could promote the ideas of understanding and meaning from the ARE descriptor.		HOW will ORACY, READING and WRITING be developed? It might be necessary to identify literacy and language challenges for students here. What will be needed as support? What activities will be key?	
	y (subject specific and academic): PP students and force links across and		
Extended Response (writing, performance or product): This should be the items used for DOYA, it might be a portfolio of work over time rather than one thing A minimum or core amount		WHAT will PROGRESS look like in this unit? idea of standards – what does DOYA look like bu look like? What are the different routes that ch does challenge look like?	it also what does progress





What will this look like for different subjects? Even if this cannot be gained in the amount needed by the end of Term 6, the curators should be able to gather some examples from their own classes for some of the curriculum. I think this will need to be an electronically shared document which only the curators can edit but all teachers can access. The curators can then build this over time. This means, they will need some time in Term 1 and throughout the year to build this up. Teachers can use it together at FNN 2 and FNN 6 ready for assessing. The exemplars need to be for each of these criteria and acknowledge that there might be different routes to all of them. Annotation of the examples will make this clear (in the manner of exam board exemplification). Year 6 exemplars will be useful. All exemplification will be used for training at all levels – teachers assessing their students, SLT understanding of what they should see in classrooms, books etc.

- Deepening (D): describes a child who has reached the year group expectation and is now taking this deeper into more abstract work. These children are following their passion within a broad curriculum that inspires the full range of attainment and interest.
- On track/Working at current age related expectation (O): describes a child who is working at the age related expectation and fulfils all the descriptors.
- Yet to be on track (Y): describes a child who shows some working at age related expectations by fulfilling some of the descriptors, but is not yet on track to achieve all of them.
- At an earlier stage in their learning journey (A): describes a child who working at a level below the age related expectation, typically around a year behind.