



# KS3 Drama Curriculum

*Bishop Wordsworth's Grammar School | Academic Year 2025–26*

## 1. Vision & Intent

Drama at KS3 nurtures confidence, creativity, and critical thinking while introducing students to a diverse range of global performance traditions. It provides a strong foundation for GCSE Drama.

This curriculum emphasizes cultural capital, exploring theatre from Ancient Greece to Brecht, Kabuki, Commedia dell'Arte, and Shakespeare.

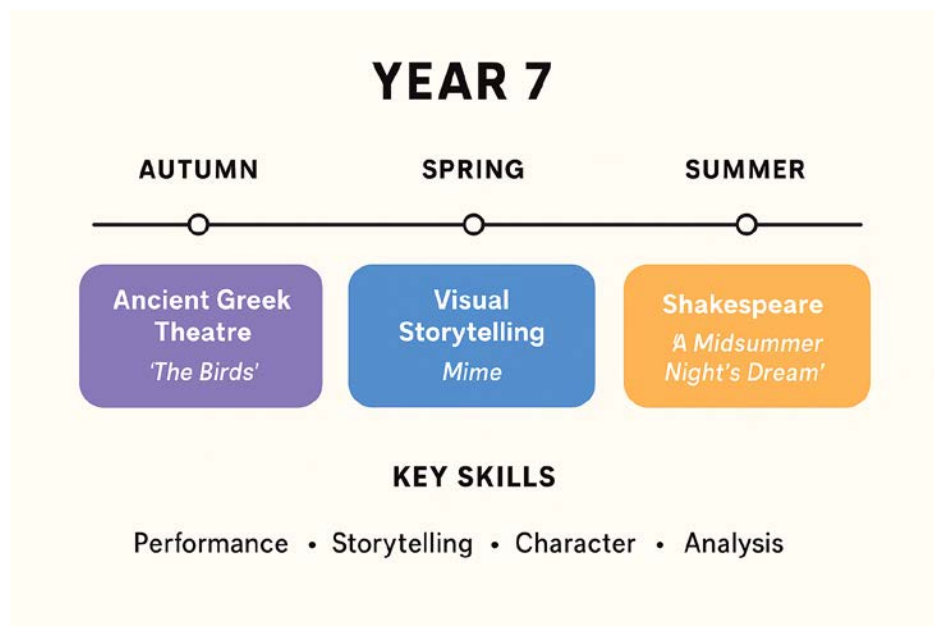
## Core Threads

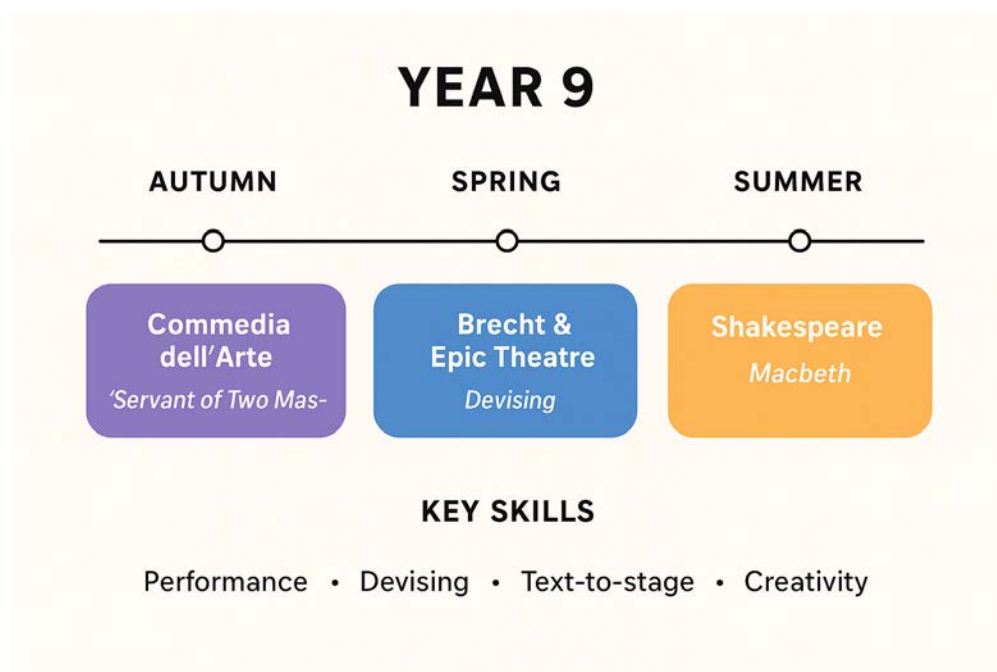
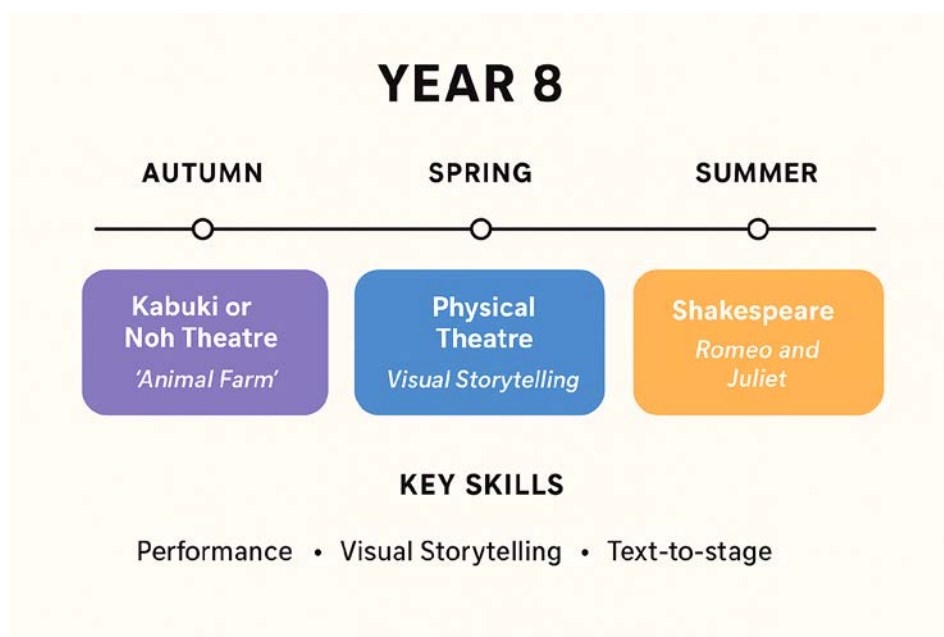
- Performance skills (vocal and physical)
- Cultural knowledge and theatre history
- Text-to-stage interpretation
- Devising and creativity
- Reflective practice

## 2. Curriculum Map (3-Year Overview)

Year	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
7	Ancient Greek Theatre ( <i>The Birds</i> )	Mime & Visual Storytelling	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>
8	Kabuki or Noh Theatre	Physical Theatre	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
9	Commedia dell'Arte ( <i>Servant of Two Masters</i> )	Brecht & Epic Theatre	<i>Macbeth</i>

## Visual Learning Maps





### 3. Assessment Framework

Strand	Focus	Example Evidence
<b>Practical (70%)</b>	Performance, collaboration, creativity	Performances, rehearsals, peer assessments
<b>Theory (30%)</b>	Knowledge, reflection, design concepts	Director's notes, design sketches, context worksheets
<b>End-of-Year</b>	Confidence, skill progression, knowledge depth	Video portfolios, written evaluations

## 4. Adaptive Teaching Strategies

- High-Ability: Leading roles, directing, practitioner research, critical evaluation.
- Struggling Learners: Scaffolded written work, role cards, structured improvisation.
- Engagement Focus: Active physical starters, competition-based rehearsal games, and creative design tasks.
- SEND / SEMH: Clear visual prompts, predictable routines, non-verbal participation.

## 5. Cross-Curricular Links

- English: Shakespeare, Animal Farm, narrative structure.
- Art/DT: Mask-making and set design sketches.
- History: Ancient Greece, Renaissance Italy, WWII (Brecht).

## 6. GCSE Prep Roadmap

- Year 7: Introduction to text analysis and non-verbal performance.
- Year 8: Broaden performance vocabulary with physical theatre and Kabuki/Noh.
- Year 9: Practitioner study (Brecht), devising, analytical writing.

By the end of KS3, students will have explored three Shakespeare plays, four global theatre traditions, and devised theatre, providing a robust foundation for GCSE Drama.