

Characterisation - Learning Journey

In this topic, we will explore characterisation techniques to build a character in a devised performance. Each week we will work with a different technique and these will be utilised into their assessment in week six. This will build on the previous two terms exploring their body and voice.

Lesson 1 - Centre of weight
 Lesson 2 - Given circumstances
 Lesson 3 - Character objective
 Lesson 4 - Vocal qualities
 Lesson 5 - Rehearsal & development
 Lesson 6 - Performance

What do I need to understand for this topic?

Vocal & physical skills
 Character objective
 Centre of weight
 Given circumstances
 Volume, tone, pitch & pace

How will I know how to perform in a successful way?

Teacher and peer modelled performance skills will be demonstrated in lesson. You will also use characterisation techniques to help you create a believable character.

How will I practice working creatively?

You will work in a number of groups, practising new skills and techniques in drama each lesson.

How will I be assessed?

In groups you will perform a short piece of drama demonstrating the characterisation skills you have learnt in lesson and put this into practise in performance. You will be assessed on your vocal and physical skills and your ability to create a believable character in performance.

Centre of weight (n)

a technique used by actors to explore different centres of weight in rehearsal to find the one that suits the specific character they are playing.

Character objective (n)

an objective is what a character wants to achieve within a scene.

Given circumstances (n)

textual information given to an actor about a character or moment (this cannot be altered). This will help them to play the character and situation true to the text.

Nuance (n)

a subtle difference in or shade of meaning, expression, or sound.

Body language (n)

the conscious and unconscious movements and postures by which attitudes and feelings are communicated.

Vocal skills (n)

using pace, pitch, volume, tone and accent skilfully to communicate the intentions of your character.