

**Spy School - Learning Journey**

This scheme of work will introduce you to Stanislavski's acting techniques. Under the pretext of training to be an MI6 agent, you will discover how to create new identities. Each lesson you will be encouraged to develop characterisation and acting skills by using the skills you have learnt to create a believable character in performance.

**Lesson 1** - Imagination, Belief & Naturalism

**Lesson 2** - Physical Apparatus

**Lesson 3** - Magic 'If'

**Lesson 4** - Tempo & Rhythm

**Lesson 5** - Sense & Emotional Memory

**Lesson 6** - Objective & Principles



**What do I need to understand for this topic?**

- Imagination, Belief & Naturalism
- Physical Apparatus
- Magic 'If'
- Tempo & Rhythm
- Sense & Emotional Memory
- Objective & Principles

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

Each lesson you will explore a different method/technique to develop a believable character in performance. Successful performances will be modelled by your teacher and your peers.

**How will I practice working creatively?**

You will work in a number of groups each lessons exploring new characterisation techniques and scenarios in performance.

**How will I be assessed?**

You will work in pairs to create a believable character in performance. This will be rehearsed and performed as part of your assessment, demonstrating your knowledge, understanding and ability to create a naturalistic character in performance.

**Imagination (n)**

the ability of the mind to be creative or resourceful.

**Objective (n)**

A character's intention or goal.

**Magic 'If' (n)**

involves an actor putting him/herself in the character's shoes within a certain scenario and asking the question 'how would I react if this happened to me?'

**vocal skills (n)**

Vocal skills include clarity of diction, inflection, accent, intonation and phrasing; pace, pause and timing; projection, pitch;

**Characterisation (n)**

The way in which an actor portrays a character.

**physical skills (n)**

Physical skills include: body language, gesture, facial expressions, pace, quality of movement and space.

## Spy School - Knowledge Organiser

Physical skills	Definition
Posture	A position of the body which can convey a mental, physical or emotional attitude (he stood defiantly)
Facial expression	Helps portray emotions, attitude (surprise, disgust)
Poise	The way a character moves (her poise was self-assured, she moved fluidly across the stage)
Characterisation	The way in which an actor has portrayed a character
Pacing	The tempo of a performance.
Status	The importance of power-on-stage of a performer in relation to their circumstances
Body tension	How tense or relaxed the performer is.
Gestures	A movement which expresses meaning, emotion or communication, (she placed her hands over her face in frustration)
Action verbs	What characters might be doing on-stage (to cajole, to bully, to mock, to impress)
Subtext	Implicating something else (she tapped the desk-top repeatedly, suggesting her annoyance)
Mime	Movement actions without speech
Gait	A way of walking or moving across the stage (he trotted across the stage)
Objective	A character's intention or goal
Repetition	The repeating of action, sound, phrase, word or movement
Blocking	The actor's planned movements
Cue	A verbal or physical signal that indicates dialogue or entrance is about to happen.
Interactions	How a character communicates with other characters.
Tempo	Inner and out emotions which have a pulse or pattern to them
Rhythm	Inner emotion shown through gestures, actions or movements

Vocal Skills:	Definition:
Pitch	How high or low the voice is.
Pace	The rhythm and speed with which words are spoken.
Projection (or volume)	How loud or quiet the voice is.
Pause	Stopping to emphasise a point or provide contrast and variation.
Intonation	The rise and fall of the voice to provide variation and interest.
Tone	How lines are said to convey meaning.
Accent	Used to indicate where a character is from (location) or to show social class or status.
Inflection	The ups and downs of spoken language.
Emphasis (or stress)	Used to place importance on specifically chosen words.
Nuance	Subtle changes in voice to change the meaning in a text.