

WEST CRAVEN HIGH SCHOOL
LEARNING JOURNEY INFORMATION
YEAR 9

SUBJECT: Drama

HALF TERM	TOPIC		INFORMATION
1	Under Their Influence		Expanding their understanding of theatre with a message, students will explore the real-life case of Patty Hearst through the style of Theatre in Education. Students will use physical and vocal skills to communicate themes surrounding justice, morality, coercion, and control, while developing characterisation, ensemble performance, and audience awareness through devised work that brings this complex case to life.
2	From Page to Stage: Bouncers, Shakers and Teechers		In their final page to stage unit, students will explore extracts from <i>Bouncers</i> , <i>Shakers</i> , and <i>Teechers</i> , from the playwright John Godber. This will develop their understanding of multi-role performance, characterisation, and comedic theatre. Students will learn how to switch between characters, create exaggerated stereotypes, and communicate themes surrounding education, nightlife, and society

			through contemporary performance styles.
3	Truth, Tragedy and Treachery		Students will explore <i>Hamlet</i> through performance, characterisation, and script work. They will develop understanding of Shakespearean language, themes of revenge, family, madness, and betrayal, and dramatic techniques, using physical and vocal skills to bring key plots, scenes, and characters to life within the world of Elsinore.
4	Sharing the Spotlight		Developing key group work skills, students will explore duologues from film and television, developing characterisation, script interpretation, and performance skills through paired acting work. Using physical and vocal techniques, students will learn how actors communicate relationships, tension, and emotion on screen while building confidence, focus, and collaboration through rehearsal and performance.

5	Stimulus to Scene		Using the skills developed in Year 8, students will explore the process of devising drama using a range of different stimuli, including pictures, music, poetry, and real-life events. Through improvisation and collaborative performance work, students will develop creativity, characterisation, and storytelling skills to communicate meaning, atmosphere, and emotion to an audience.
6	From Renaissance to Rival Gangs		KS3 Drama study culminates with the exploration of Shakespeare's <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> as students look at the modernisation of classic literature through the musical <i>West Side Story</i> and Belgrade Theatre's 2025 adaptation. Students will examine how themes, characters, and conflict are adapted for contemporary audiences while applying the physical and vocal performance skills they have developed throughout the last three years.