



Cardinal
Newman
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Performing Arts Department

Welcome to the Performing Arts (drama & music) Department!

Subject teachers:

Mrs. C Keane, Mrs. E McHugh, Mrs. M Cleary, Mr. L Mulholland, Mr. F Brown

Performing Arts lessons at Cardinal Newman Catholic School explore the subject through a variety of exciting and engaging schemes of learning that foster transferable skills to set students up to confidently progress to the world of Higher Education and work in any field. Students will develop their communication skills and build confidence working independently and in groups to produce performances and be able to review the work created.

Year 7

In Drama Year 7, we cover a range of topics from introducing the students to performance skills such as still image, mime and vocal skills, to scripted Pantomime performances and exploring devising of Harry Potter. Students will have one lesson a week.

In Music, Year 7 are part of a carousel with Art. Students will have one lesson of Music each week for 8 weeks. They will explore 'Elements of Music' developing an understanding of how to create their own composition on the keyboard, understanding keyboard skills and rhythm.

Overall, we want Year 7 students to develop their performance skills which can help with confidence and teamwork. Most importantly, we want the students to enjoy themselves!



GCSE Drama & Music

We follow the AQA exam board for Drama GCSE exploring for Component 1 the set text *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller and students will be visiting the theatre to see *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* for their live evaluation question. Component 2 devising drama, students explore different practitioners and stimulus to create an original piece of theatre and supporting coursework. For the final Component 3 students perform two script extracts to a visiting examiner. For GCSE Music, Eduqas is the exam board. Students will create 2 compositions (own brief and set brief), perform 2 pieces of their choice, and sit a written exam on 4 key areas of study.

Extra-Curricular

Year 7 Drama Club: A weekly club during a lunch time where you can make new friends and develop acting skills.

Theatre Trips: We like to give our students the opportunity to attend trips throughout their time at Cardinal Newman. This can include going to the theatre to watch shows in The West End or locally. The cast of the upcoming musical will be going to London to see the show in November 2027.

Whole School Musical: Our whole school musical this year is *High School Musical* in March 2027 and students in all years will be in the cast, rehearsing and preparing for this performance. Students can also get involved supporting backstage roles.

Drama Company: recently worked & collaborated with a local theatre company called *Tangled Feet* to create a devised performance exploring the theme of memories, working with the local dementia charity *Young @ Heart*

Choir & Band: All are a great opportunity for students who like to sing or play instruments. Students can take part in *Battle of the Bands* music event in March 2027.

Careers in Drama

Do you like performing on stage or in a classroom?

Actor/ Performer/ Comedian/ Drama Teacher

Do you like writing or directing?

Script writer/ Director- company or theatre/ Theatre Producer

Do you enjoy working in a theatre?

Theatre manager/ Stage manager/ Costume designer/ Sound designer/ Props designer

Careers in Music

Do you play an instrument or sing?

Artist/ Instrumental Teacher/ Orchestra Musician

Do you like writing and creating songs or music?

Songwriter/ Composer for Video Games/ Media Music Composer/ Music Producer

Do you enjoy working with technology?

Studio Maintenance Engineer/ Music Recording / Mixing Engineer/ Mastering Engineer/ Assistant Recording Technician

Do you like live events?

Live Event Technician/ DJ