

What is Creative Drama?

What is Creative Drama? - It is process driven drama rather than performance drama - in other words the emphasis and value is in the process rather than the outcome.

In the first place it brings to life, books, stories, characters & situations by 'playing out' the narrative, through structured play, in a highly, fun and interactive way. For younger students this 'structured play' and 'playing out' of a situation, often goes on to be called improvisation or devising as students get older and move on up through the Centre Stage, Stages. Step two of the process is then to take the ideas and themes from the chosen stories or stimulus and go on to creatively explore these further. We often incorporate, poetry, music and pictures as a spring-board to jump off from.

Skills applied and gained from these classes are broad and immense - Confidence, communication, quick thinking, problem solving, flexibility, team-work, an ability to improvise, apply creativity and imagination. Classes also nurture and develop social and emotional skills as students apply empathy and understanding towards others, in different situations and scenarios, as they happily step in and out of a characters shoes and their story.

All of the above are important life skills and are of value for everyone, especially with the demands of this ever- changing world – Arts for Life!

Although these are all important life skills, in themselves, they also form a supportive and complimentary pathway in study towards, IGCSE, GCSE, A'level, IB, Trinity & LAMDA Exams and are ideal for anyone wishing to pursue a career in the Arts. These classes are also the perfect foundation for the student who enjoys performance and wishes to attend one of our Centre Stage Performance courses, or wishes to become a performer and wants to lead on to University or Drama School at 18 + to study further to become a professional Actor and performer.

These carefully planned sessions have very clear aims and teaching outcomes and are delivered by enthusiastic teachers with a passion for the Arts. Centre Stage Creative Drama lessons and courses have been carefully written, developed, and continually honed over the twenty years that Centre Stage has been in operation, by the founders and directors Ali & Pete who continue to be fully involved in teaching and teacher training.

Along side the passion, the younger teachers bring fresh new ideas in arts training together with energy, enthusiasm and a desire to impart this to their students. Our senior teachers offer the same qualities, as well as bringing along a wealth of experience. Here at CS we stay up to date with new approaches and new ways of thinking with regards to training and to the teaching of the creative arts so we remain current in our delivery. All our teachers are trained in the Centre Stage approach to Creative Drama, so they are able to impart their passion and skills to the students and are closely monitored to make sure their delivery meets our high standards.

At Centre Stage, we ourselves are assessed, monitored and supported by Drama UK – An independent board that are responsible for maintaining standards and provides accreditation to Colleges and Universities in the UK that offer Conservatoire training in the performing Arts.