



Performing Arts

Transition Booklet
Year 11-12

Performing Arts – Preparation for KS5

The below information and supporting tasks will support you in preparation for KS5. The document will outline the units that you will be studying and how you can use this time to best prepare for the work. There are associated tasks within this that you can do in order to gain knowledge that will greatly benefit your progression during your time in KS5. Each unit has an emphasis on practitioners and this is where I suggest that we start this journey. Some of you will already have knowledge of practitioners which is great. However, KS5 is the time to deepen that understanding and build upon what you have studied already.

Content	Information
Course breakdown – the units that you will study.	During the course you will study 4 units. Each of the units aim to prepare you for further study. Two of the units are internally assessed and two are externally assessed. <u>The units are as follows:</u> <u>UNIT 1</u> – Prepare to work in the Performing Arts sector <u>UNIT 2</u> – Proposal for a commissioning brief <u>UNIT 3</u> – Influential Performance Practice <u>UNIT 4</u> – Combined Arts <u>UNIT 8</u> – Performing Repertoire N.B Internally assessed means that the work is set by the exam board but marked by your teachers and verified by the exam board. Externally assessed means that the work is set and marked by the exam board. Each of the units have a heavy practitioner influence. You need to be able to link back to works that you have either seen or read about, techniques that you have researched and tried. Practitioners that you have worked on and gained further knowledge of. The three practitioners that I strongly recommend that you begin to research are Bertolt Brecht, Constantin Stanislavski and Steven Berkoff.
Suggested research points.	<u>Below I have outlined some suggested starting points for your research:</u> Bertolt Brecht - Firstly, who is he? - ‘Epic Theatre’ – this was the term for the style of theatre that he created - World War 2 and Nazi Germany - Specific techniques that Brecht includes in his work. - ‘Fear and Misery of the Third Reich’ – Arguably one of his most famous works. There are extracts inline, have a look at the way it is set out and written. Constantin Stanislavski - Who is he?

	- What does the term 'Naturalistic Theatre' mean? - The Moscow Arts Theatre. - Who are his main influences/who has he influenced? - The 'System' of acting - 'An actor prepares' – if you can get hold of a copy of this book I highly suggest reading it. - Did he work from the outside in or inside out? Steven Berkoff - Who is he? - What are his most famous plays? – if you can get a copy of one of them. Read it. See how it differs and how it could be similar to Brecht's - What were his main influences? - Berkoff is an extremely vocal personality in the theatrical world. Watch some interviews with him, there are plenty. Look at his personality and the way he thinks.
TASKS This needs to be completed before we return	<u>Learn the following monologue.</u> "I wish I was our Sammy Our Sammy's nearly ten. He's got two worms and a catapult An' he's built a underground den. But I'm not allowed to go in there, I have to stay near the gate, 'Cos me Mam says I'm only seven, But I'm not, I'm nearly eight! I sometimes hate our Sammy, He robbed me toy car y' know, Now the wheels are missin' an' the top's broke off, An' the bleedin' thing won' go. An' he said when he took it, it was just like that, But it wasn't, it went dead straight, But y' can't say nodd'n when they think y' seven An' y' not, y' nearly eight. I wish I was our Sammy, Y' wanna see him spit, Straight in y' eye from twenty yards An' every time a hit. He's allowed to play with matches, And he goes to bed dead late, And I have to go at seven, Even though I'm nearly eight. Y' know our Sammy, He draws nudey women, Without arms, or legs, or even heads In the baths, when he goes swimmin'. But I'm not allowed to go to the baths, Me Mam says I have to wait, 'Cos I might get drowned, cos I'm only seven,

	But I'm not, I'm nearly eight. Y' know our Sammy, Y' know what he sometimes does? He wees straight through the letter box Of the house next door to us. I tried to do it one night, But I had to stand on a crate, 'Cos I couldn't reach the letter box But I will by the time I'm eight."
Plays to watch	Like I said, theatre has never been more available. Use the links below to watch some plays and musicals. See how people incorporate techniques. Use your research to identify influences. Firstly, we have access to the National Theatre Online Catalogue which includes a number of National Theatre productions. You will need a login for this website which is as follows: Website : https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com Username: 9Do&4Oy# Password: 8Zs&7At! A number of talks with directors and actors who have worked with the National Theatre are available on YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/user/ntdiscovertheatre For those of you who are interested in watching some quality physical theatre Gecko Theatre are releasing a whole load of their shows on YouTube. They can be found here – you will need to scroll through the videos to find them https://www.youtube.com/user/GeckoTheatreCo “Girls Like That” is being streamed on Youtube you can find that here https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=Cx2KDNusk9E&feature=emb_logo Cookies is a play about cyberbullying and was released in 2017. You can watch that in full here https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=WMH77gzqd88&feature=emb_logo
Useful books to buy	An actor prepares – Constantin Stanislavski National Youth Theatre Monologues – speeches for young people. The Complete Brecht Toolkit – Stephen Unwin Metamorphosis – Steven Berkoff One Act Plays – Steven Berkoff

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