

June 2021

St Martin's School Drama Department – Rainbow Flag Award

The Drama department are committed to promoting an inclusive and positive environment in which students feel safe and supported to explore and learn about LGBT+ issues.

What we already do:

At KS3, our text and topic choices allow us to explore gender, relationships and stereotyping

Pantomime – discussion around cross gender roles including principal boy and the dame

Lord of the Flies – explores gender and gang culture

Alex and Sam – non-specific gender names to allow freedom to explore the script without labels

In a year 8 class, exploring Romeo and Juliet, an all-male group chose to set the play in modern day with the Romeo and Juliet both as male characters and the Montagues and Capulets both prejudiced towards their relationship.

At KS4, our text choices for scripted performance are varied, covering a range of topics in which the students can see themselves and society reflected in the playwright's world. For the devised performance, students have some free choice over what they chose to research within the bounds of the stimulus we give them.

Year 10 have been exploring their Component 1 Devised PPE this term culminating in a performance to Year 7 and 8 students. The students were tasked with creating a TIE (Theatre in Education) performance with the instruction to educate the audience on a topic that would be relevant to their age group. The students chose a variety of topics such as bullying, body image and peer pressure. One group chose to focus their performance on sexuality and how it can come with a variety of challenges for the young person exploring it. The performance was mature and dealt with issues such as peer bullying / non-acceptance, the worries around 'coming out' and speaking with family who may not accept the child's sexuality. The audience responded positively to the performance and allowed them to reflect upon their own thoughts and feelings towards the topic.

What we will do:

In our commitment to have more visibility of LGBT+ plays, playwrights and topics, below are some of the changes we are making for September 2021.

At KS3, we will audit our curriculum map to see where we can signpost LGBT+ issues.

At KS4, we will run a student voice to ascertain how well students feel that we are inclusive of LGBT+ issues.

For scripted performances, we will expand our text choices to include more diversity including;

Pronoun by Evan Placey – Gender identity and relationships

The Free9 by In-Sook Chappell – Teenage identity, gender and sexuality

Girls Like That by Evan Placey – Gender inequality, sexuality and body image

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Rotterdam by Jon Brittain – Gender identity and relationships

The Pride – Alexi Kaye Campbell