



Drama helps develop children's imagination and generates discussions

as a whole class, in small groups and pairs. It enables a variety of voices to be heard and enables children to enrich their writing. It helps pupils to deepen their understanding of texts and increases opportunities for storytelling. Classroom drama enables the development of language, gestures, emotions and empathy. It also encourages pupils to work co-operatively and gain confidence in different social situations.

In Phoenix many children enter the school with low self-esteem and poor language skills. Placing drama as a separate part of the curriculum in KS1 enables these children to gain a voice and confidence in their ability to talk to others and learn some of the skills and techniques of speaking and listening as well as performing. These skills can then be developed in KS2 by using role-play and other drama techniques to help pupils to identify with and explore different characters in literacy. This can help them extend their understanding, and to try out language that that character might use. It can contribute to the quality of a pupils writing by providing opportunities to develop and order their ideas. Drama provides opportunities for children to richly enhance their learning experiences through, reading and understanding texts, building a fictional world for writing, performing in school plays, assemblies, performance poetry, theatre trips, and enjoying visiting performers.

Drama and dance drama are also used in many other subject areas e.g. RE, PSHCE, Geography, History and Science to enhance the learning and understanding in these subjects.

The impact Drama can make depends on the confidence of the teaching staff to use drama in their lessons. CPD to encourage new ideas and, use it as part of lessons, especially in literacy and reading, but also in other lessons as well. To get feed back from staff on how they are getting on and what help would be useful for them to improve their drama teaching. To ask the pupils how they feel about drama as part of their lessons. What they are doing, and how does it help their leaning.