

Payment Terms.

1. Payment is termly in advance on or before the first day of term. A Full Term's Notice in writing must be given of the discontinuance of Speech & Drama, otherwise a full term's fees are due in lieu of such notice. Interest on late payment will be charged at the rate of 10% or part thereof. This notice should be given to Mrs Dale.
2. The following are guidelines for parents, based on current good practice in Speech & Drama Departments. There are 30 lessons within the school year. If a pupil is ill, the teacher need not make the lesson up but will see if this is possible. If the teacher is ill, then the lesson will be made up. No credit can be given for lessons that are missed through no fault of the teacher concerned. For compulsory trips, lessons will be rescheduled. For optional trips or if the pupil forgets or if parents take the pupil out or if they leave before the end of term, the teacher need not make the lesson up. Every effort should be made by pupils to inform the teacher if they are unable to attend a lesson. The teacher will endeavour to make up the lesson where possible, providing sufficient absence of notice is given.
3. Examinations and the Festival count as a lesson. The reason for this is that the examinations are organised and run by the teacher over weekends during the course of the year. Fees for lessons include the administration of the day which includes provision of lunch for the examiners. This helps to keep further tuition costs down. The Festival also runs over the course of a week and the weekend plus the concert. During these times other Speech & Drama lessons, examining and Voiceover work may be cancelled in order to attend to the children.
4. A report on pupil's progress will be sent home twice yearly.
5. On joining, a note book should be provided which will be used for pupil's and parents' information and should be taken to each lesson. Parents are requested to give their children encouragement to practise as required.



Speech & Drama



At Micklefield



About Speech & Drama

There is great enthusiasm for this subject at Micklefield.

Working at their own pace and to their own ability, the aim of the programme, either individually or in groups, is to develop the confidence of the children to perform to a high standard. Children are given opportunities to take London Academy of Speech and Drama (LAMDA) examinations in Communication and Performance & English Speaking Board (ESB) examinations in Spoken English.

Lessons are structured around the individual talents and interests of the students. Subjects on offer may include Reading for Performance, Spoken English, Public Speaking & Verse & Prose in Communication and Acting, Mime & Improvisation in Performance.

Each session normally starts with a warm-up, game or improvisation and then moves on to voice and text work. Exam work usually involves learning one or two pieces off by heart and children can work at their own pace. Exams are not obligatory but children who enter usually do very well. All you need is to bring is your enthusiasm and interest!

Non examination candidates will concentrate on a particular area of interest e.g. performance skills, poetry writing, improvisation, acting or sight reading as well as developing voice skills on a more individual basis.

Exercises to develop clarity of speech, variety in tone, pitch, pace, power and use of pause are all explored. The aim of voice work is to develop a pleasing sound to maximum effect with the minimum of effort.

Apart from the obvious benefits of working within a structured programme where children gain certificates, these classes are aimed to be fun and to help develop the child's confidence to perform to a high standard.

Both syllabi are national awarding bodies and the higher grades are all listed on the UCAS Tariff Tables. They are closely linked to the National Curriculum aiming to develop speaking and listening skills as well as to broaden the pupil's knowledge of authors and texts.

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The termly fee for tuition for 2011-2012 is as follows:

Individual £135 for the Upper school and £120 for the Lower school.
Group: £100 for the Upper school and £80 for the Lower school.

Lessons are taught in groups/individual as follows: 20 mins Lower school (up to 6 pupils where 6 in a group assists in the preparation of pupils for Group examinations) and 30 mins Upper school (up to 4 pupils).

In this way accommodation is also made, for those who wish, to take part in ESB examination work in the Lower School as well as festival work such as Group Speaking. In the Upper School this may include Group Recital, Choral Speaking, Group Devised Performance, Group Acting as well as ESB examinations which are all held in groups of a minimum of 6.

In addition Upper School class times may be extended by 5 mins per pupil up to a maximum of eight pupils (50 mins) for which there is no extra charge.

A report on pupil's progress will be sent home twice yearly. On joining, a note book should be provided which will be used for pupil's and parents' information and should be taken to each lesson.

Parents are requested to give their children encouragement to practise as required.