

LANCASTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

I introduced LAMDA lessons in 2017 and have had some fantastic results with the boys gaining 2 Merits and 8 Distinctions at Silver (Grade 7) and Gold Medal (Grade 8) for two consecutive years. 5 boys were awarded over 95% in 2019 and all of them received full marks in their theory.

LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts) compliments the A level specification in many ways particularly when supporting the students for Component 2 which assesses the practical monologue/duologue examination. It also provides an opportunity for those not studying A level Theatre but with a desire to become more confident communicators and develop a new set of skills which would be transferable and relevant to many career paths.

I have taught LAMDA for 21 years and seen the far reaching benefits that this challenging subject provides. I taught it to girls at Casterton prior to LRGs and look forward to working on texts for a range of pupils in September. I will be offering to teach both the Acting and the Verse and Prose examinations to Silver and Gold standard to Sixth Form students. The exams are accredited with up to 30 UCAS points under with 48 points equating to an A at A level.

The Acting examination will comprise of looking at three different time periods ranging from Greek, Elizabethan or Restoration and comparing these with a 1800-1930 piece and a post 1980's extract. Gold medallists will also look at key practitioners employed in the acting process such as Stanislavski and Brecht. Candidates this year looked at a range of playwrights from Euripides, Harold Pinter and Jez Butterworth.

The Verse and Prose examination will consist of a poem or prose extract selected from a prescribed list of texts. They will contrast this with a selection of their own choice and be examined further on sight-reading skills and a recitation of a Shakespearian sonnet. The Acting and the Verse and Prose examination will have a verbal discussion with the examiner on their selected pieces and this will contribute towards the final mark. Pupils will either select the Acting or the Verse and Prose examination. The majority of candidates opt to be examined on the Acting examination.

I will come into school 2 days a week and deliver the lessons individually or as a pair for the duologue acting examination. They will be taught in their free periods, at lunch or after school. They will cost £15 for a 40 minute lesson if taught individually and £10 if taught as a pair for the duologue acting examination and be paid in 10 week blocks through Wisepay. I intend to teach for 10 weeks in the Christmas and Spring Term culminating with the examination at the end of the Spring Term.

Could you please indicate whether you would like your son or daughter to take LAMDA lessons via e-mail so I can get an indication of numbers for September.

I will have a meeting in the Drama Studio on Monday 9th September at 1.05 to organise timetables and I will commence teaching in the second week of term. I hope to see many familiar faces at the start of the new academic year but also welcome any newcomers to this subject.

Yours faithfully
Nici Marriott