

DRAMA DIARY GUIDELINES

This is a help-sheet for you to use when completing your drama diary either at home or in lessons. The Diary has many functions:

- It can record your ideas, your experience and study in drama;
- It can store new information, concepts, skills gained in the lesson;
- It can be used as a record of your achievements in class and outside class;
- It can encourage reflection and improve drama literacy;
- It can register your favourite games, exercises done during the lesson;
- It can be a reflection of your work and/or your friends' work in drama and from your life experiences connected to the work.

The Journal should be brought to every lesson. If you forget to bring it up to 3 times; you will have to serve a short drama detention. Entries should be made after every lesson either at home or at the end of the lesson. Your journal is personal. However, if you feel like sharing part of your entry, you are more than welcome! Your journal will be checked regularly. You can include drawings, brainstorm lists, quotes, articles from other sources and cut-outs.

What to write about in your Journal?

Expectations	Connections with other areas	Changes needed
Ideas for projects	Observations	New vocabulary, knowledge, behaviour, understandings, skills
Actions taken	Questions	Accomplishments
Problems encountered	Responses	Reactions / feelings

Why write in your journal?

Clarify ideas	Outline goals and action plans
Assess and evaluate what works or not	Record personal reactions
Record events	Discuss your learning

Starters

I (dis) like the way...	I hope to...	A question I now ask is...
I (don't) believe...	I felt...	Because I have done this I can...
I (don't) understand...	I have learned...	I remembered...
I (dis) agree with...	I want to know more about	The purpose of this was to...
What I need to do now is...	This connects to...	I was reminded of...
I found it easy / difficult to...	The most important...	I had a breakthrough...

When to write in your journal?

At the end of lessons	When something surprising or significant occurs
When beginning or ending a project	When organizing thoughts and ideas while working on a project
When it feels good to do so	To remind yourself of something

Guideline questions for a good Drama Diary entry:

1. What did you do in the lesson? Talk about conventions and techniques you used as well as the activity you were set.
2. Why did you do these activities? What skills did you develop?
3. Did you learn any new vocabulary?
4. How well did you work? Discuss your own work and that of others, mentioning areas in which you could improve.
5. If you could do this differently, what would you have done or changed and why?
6. Include any planning, scripts, storyboards, pictures, diagrams and research that you have done at home or in lessons.