

## **LAMDA Examinations Tuition 'Speaking Matters!'**

During the school year **Centre Stage Drama School** at Davenant, offers students the opportunity to take graded examinations set by **LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art)** in speech and drama. LAMDA is one of the oldest drama schools in the United Kingdom about to celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday! **LAMDA** examinations are widely recognised and highly respected. They are designed to equip candidates, whatever their age or aspirations, with a range of skills that will serve them throughout life. LAMDA examinations provide a platform for children and young people to gain confidence, work as a team, hold a conversation and participate more fully in their society.

**In January 2011 LAMDA examination tuition classes in speech and drama, available to all year groups was introduced into the daytime school tuition programme for all students who want to build confidence and improve their speech and communication skills, as well as those who wish to take their acting classes that step further!**

**LAMDA exams are also ideal for students studying GCSE or A-Level drama** as the exam preparation provides experience in practical performance skills whilst increasing knowledge of dramatic texts and styles, and unlike GCSE and A-level drama, the solo acting exams require students to perform on their own and be examined by an external examiner individually. This gives the students greater ownership of their successes and a stronger sense of responsibility.

Acting and speech exams also expand a student's cross-curricular knowledge as they might need to explore English and world literature, language and history amongst other subjects! **LAMDA exams are highly regarded at all levels and higher level LAMDA examinations can be used to obtain UCAS points for university entry.** The examinations are also a great foundation for those thinking about pursuing academic or professional careers in drama, as learners are required to perform to a high standard in order to achieve the qualifications.

**Wendy Eveson, the principal of Centre Stage Drama School was proud to publicise a 100% student pass rate for Winter Term 2010, which included impressive pass marks, merits and distinctions!** Since introducing the exams to the Centre Stage curriculum four years ago Wendy has found the examinations to be invaluable as they have given the students tremendous confidence and provided additional CV experience which sets them apart.

**The examinations help a student develop their creativity in language, presentation and performance and illustrates to the students the impact language and communication can have and how they can learn to deliver this!** The examinations in Acting enable students to focus on their individual skills, which is less of an option with classroom drama. The whole process, from learning the dramatic text, to working on the voice, character, physical character, presentation and performance leaves the students with a real sense of achievement, dedication and professionalism!

The weekly tuition sessions will last for 30 minutes and students can choose to do either a **solo exam** (1 student to perform 2 acting pieces: monologues), **duologue exam** ( 2 students to perform 2 acting pieces together), or a **combined exam** (2 students to perform 1 acting piece together and 1 monologue: solo piece each). At the first session materials will be discussed and sight read to find suitable pieces for the students. It is also helpful if the students bring books, plays etc of interest to them that might be able to be used.

The weekly sessions will take place during the school day and the times will be rotated as with other tuition. The tuition sessions will lead to an exam (date and level depending on student's age, progress and term length).