

At Ellendel, we believe that self-confidence, resilience, and effective communication skills are immensely important and this forms the foundation of all our lessons.

Aims and Objectives:

- Students can express themselves with clarity and confidence in all situations
- Develop an appreciation of literature and enjoyment of reading. Students learn how to read aloud with a sensitivity for content and style which will hold the interest of the listeners
- Improve conversational skills and develop the ability to listen with sensitivity and courtesy
- Expand their vocabulary in order to express their thoughts and ideas effectively
- Develop their skills in public speaking and learn how to project their voice when speaking to an audience

Course Material

A **google drive** will be set up for each class where students can access resources to support their learning as well as poems and prose pieces. Resources will be updated regularly to support students' learning with exercises students can do weekly in their own time. Each week, students will be asked to prepare something for their next lesson. This will be available for students on Google Drive with an outline of what they need to have prepared each lesson with the term clearly labelled.

We ask that all students have a Speech and Drama folder to organise their material and have everything together. Students should use dividers to organise different sections. This is good practice for students.

Age Groups

Lessons are adapted for the following age groups. In some classes there may be a overlap of groups, however lessons are differentiated according to these ages.

<p><u>Introductory</u></p> <p>Ages 5-8 School Years 1-3</p>	<p><u>Foundation</u></p> <p>Ages 8-10 School Years 3-5</p>	<p><u>Intermediate</u></p> <p>Ages 10-12 School Years 5-7</p>	<p><u>Advanced</u></p> <p>Ages 14+ School Year 9+</p>
		<p><u>Upper Intermediate</u></p> <p>Ages 12-14 School Years 7-9</p>	<p>(All lessons online in groups of 4 max)</p>

Autumn Term: Verse and Prose Speaking

Dates: W/B 9th September to W/B 16th of December (Half Term Break week of the 28th of October):
14 weeks

Focus: Preparation for Verse and Prose LAMDA exam.

Skills Taught:

During this term, students will concentrate on developing their verse and prose speaking skills, with an emphasis on preparation for LAMDA exams:

- Verse Speaking: Techniques for effective delivery, including intonation, rhythm and expression
- Prose Speaking: Development of clear articulation, characterisation and emotional engagement.
- Text Analysis: Understanding and Interpreting the meaning and nuances of Selected Texts
- Performance Techniques: Building confidence and stage presence while performing verse and prose
- Memorisation Skills: Strategies for memorising and retaining material

*LAMDA exams are optional. If you do not wish for your child to sit an exam at this time, please let us know. Students who are not preparing for a LAMDA exam during the Autumn Term, will still engage in valuable learning and skills development outlined above.

Introductory & Entry Level	12 weeks of preparation for exam.	LAMDA Exam date: In-Person: 23 rd of 24 th November (online will also be roughly the same dates)
Level 1 (G1, G2 and G3)	13 weeks of preparation for exam.	LAMDA Exam date: In-Person: 7 th 8 th December (online will also be roughly the same dates)
Level 2 (G4 and G5)	14 weeks of preparation for exam.	LAMDA Exam date: In-Person: 14 th and 15 th December (online will also be roughly the same dates)
Level 3 (G6, 7 and 8)	18- 20 weeks of preparation	LAMDA Exam date: In-Person: 18 th and 19 th of January (online will also be roughly the same dates)

*These dates are for students in our Group Speech and Drama classes. Students will be offered an extra complimentary

group preparation lesson in the run up to exams. If you would like to book a 1:1 lesson for your child before the exam, please email us in advance to arrange. A half hour 1:1 lesson will cost £25. Students who are not ready to sit the exam on the suggested date, can sit in the new year. However, if a student has already been entered for the exam on this date parents are responsible for paying exam fees.

Spring Term: Public Speaking, Drama and Reading Aloud

Dates: W/B 6th January to W/B 31st March. (Half Term: W/B 17th Feb) 12 weeks

Focus: The Spring Term will emphasise developing skills that support effective Public Speaking, engaging in dramatic performance, and enhancing expressive and fluent reading aloud.

Skills Taught:

<p>Public Speaking 4 weeks</p>	<p>Students will practice delivering prepared and impromptu speeches and presentations with confidence, focusing on voice projection, clear articulation and engaging with their audience. They will work on structuring their speeches effectively and using body language to reinforce their message.</p>
<p>Drama 4 weeks</p>	<p>Students will explore various dramatic techniques through character creation, scene work and improvisation. They will develop their acting skills including emotional expression and physical movement.</p>
<p>Reading Aloud 4 weeks</p>	<p>Students will engage in expressive reading activities to improve their ability to convey meaning and emotion of texts. They will practice varying their tone, pace and volume to bring stories and passages to life. These lessons will encourage students to read widely and will support their fluency and articulation. Students will learn how to interpret texts and present their understanding of character and themes in group discussions.</p>
<p>LAMDA</p>	<p><i>In the last week of term, students will start to think about LAMDA exams and choose if they would like to take a LAMDA exam in Public Speaking, Solo Acting or Reading for Performance. Before we break for the Half Term, students will be given work to have prepared for when they return in the Summer Term ready to start preparing for exams. The Ellendel team will review the structure of classes for the summer term in line with students' choices.</i></p>

Summer Term: LAMDA Exams and Speech and Drama

Dates: W/B 21st April to W/B 14th July (Half Term: W/B 26th May)

Focus: Preparation for LAMDA Exams

Outline of learning/skills:

During the Summer Term, students will have the opportunity to choose an area of speech and drama they wish to focus on. This term offers greater autonomy allowing students to tailor their learning experience based on their interests and goals. Whether preparing for a LAMDA exam or exploring other aspects of speech and drama, students will have the freedom to delve into literature and research of their choice. The summer term is designed to foster creativity, independence and a deeper engagement with literature.

1. Personalised focus where students will select their preferred area of study within speech and drama, including but not limited to preparing for LAMDA exams.
2. Students are encouraged to experiment within different forms of literature and drama allowing them to discover new interests and refine their skills.
3. To showcase their progress, we will invite parents to a special event where students will present their work. This celebration will highlight the students' hard work.

Grade	Time Period	LAMDA Exam date
Level 1 (G1, G2 and G3)	13 weeks of preparation for exam.	In-Person: 12 th and 13 th July (online will also be roughly the same dates)
Level 2 (G4 and G5)	14 weeks of preparation for exam.	In-Person: 12 th and 13 th July (online will also be roughly the same dates)
Level 3 (G6, 7 and 8)	18- 20 weeks of preparation	In-Person: 19 th and 20 th July (online will also be roughly the same dates)

*These dates are for students in our Group Speech and Drama classes. Students will be offered an extra complimentary group preparation lesson in the run up to exams. If you would like to book a 1:1 lesson for your child before the exam, please email us in advance to arrange. A half hour 1:1 lesson will cost £25. Students who are not ready to sit the exam on the suggested date, can sit at a later date in the summer (last one being 26th and 17th July) or in September. However, if a student has already been entered for the exam on this date parents are responsible for paying exam fees.

Festivals

At Ellendel we recognise the importance of Speech and Drama festivals in developing the self-esteem and confidence in public speaking of our students. We believe that taking part in Speech and Drama festivals is on the whole a positive experience and students gain valuable skills in both the preparation and taking part. Students learn valuable skills and get positive feedback to take away. Each year we stress the importance of this and we do not place focus on students winning, as each adjudicator will differ in their choice of prize winners. The opportunity to perform in local festivals is something we wish to offer as many of our students as possible, however, this requires a willingness from students to prepare fully for these. The opportunity to participate in festivals will be offered to students who we believe will prepare to a high standard and be motivated to work largely on their own in preparation.

Festival work will not be taught in lesson therefore only students who we believe will work independently on pieces will be invited to take part. We will offer a few rehearsal classes in small groups before the festival to help with final touches to students' work. Parents can also book some 1:1 prep lessons with us if required.

1. **The Kingston Festival:** Saturday 9th and 16th November 2024
2. **The Croydon Festival:** 25th and 26th January 2025
3. **The Bromley Festival:** Date TBC (usually around 16th March)
4. **The Richmond Festival:** Date TBC (usually May)