



Urmston Grammar School

Monday 22 June 2026

Dear Parent, Carers and Pupils,

We can hardly believe how quickly this year has flown and hope you are looking forward to your summer plans that allow time to slow down for a little while! We have been delighted with the continued growth of the Performing Arts departments at Urmston Grammar School.

This year has seen several highlights including our successful production of 'Little Shop of Horrors' in February, wonderful performances for, 'Year 7: Let's Sing', 'Festival of Christmas', winning two awards in the NODA Youth Awards in January for 'Best Youth Drama' and 'Best Staging of a Youth Drama' for our 2025 production of 'DNA' by Dennis Kelly, and were delighted with the performances of our Junior Choir pupils who represented our school magnificently in the Spring at the Music for Youth Festival in Rochdale, followed by another set of outstanding results for our LAMDA students. The number of students now participating in the Performing Arts is growing rapidly, it is wonderful to see our students' working with so much commitment, we look forward to next year when there is more to come!

As this year draws to a close, we are delighted to share the news that Mrs S Niland will take on the role of our Theatre Technician alongside her LAMDA teaching. We have begun to make exciting plans for the new academic year and wanted to take this opportunity to share some aspects with you.

Extra-Curricular Schedule 2026-2027

In addition to our varied curricula, we will continue to offer a packed extra-curricular schedule. Regardless of experience, we would be delighted to encourage your child to participate in our activities in which life-long friendships are often made whilst supporting your child's development more broadly. Please see attached timetable for the year.

Productions 2026-27

'The Crucible' by Arthur Miller

Following on from this year's successful productions of, 'Little Shop of Horrors!', we are excited to announce that the coming year will see us stage two productions. In February, our whole school production will be, 'The Crucible' by Arthur Miller.

'Arthur Miller's, 'The Crucible', is a dramatised retelling of the 1692 Salem witch trials. When a group of teenage girls begins falsely accusing townspeople of witchcraft to hide their own illicit activities, mass hysteria erupts. The resulting paranoia allows personal vendettas to destroy the community, ultimately focusing on the tragic fate of a local farmer, John Proctor.'

Audition Information: Auditions will take place in the Theatre at 15.30-17.00 on Thursday 10 September. No preparation will be required. Open to all pupils in Years 8-13.

Rehearsal Information: Rehearsals will then commence on Thursday 17 September on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school plus some lunchtimes. There will be additional compulsory rehearsals on Saturday 17 October, Saturday 12 December and Saturday 16 January. Pupils (all cast and crew) will also be required during the technical weekend on 30 and 31 January- arrangements to follow. A detailed schedule will be provided upon casting.

Production Week: The week of the production will be week beginning Monday 1 February 2027



Urmston Grammar School

'SHOWTIME 2027!'

Our second production will be a Musical Theatre celebration, with performances taking place in the week beginning Monday 5 July.

Audition Information: Auditions will take place in the Theatre at 15.30-17.00 on Thursday 25 February. Further information will be provided closer to the time. Open to all pupils in Years 7-10 and Year 12.

Rehearsal Information: Rehearsals will then commence on Tuesday 9 March and will typically run every Tuesday and Thursday until 5pm. There will also be a requirement to attend some lunchtime and weekend rehearsals. A rehearsal schedule will be provided following casting.

Trips and Visits 2026-2027

Several exciting trips are already in the calendar, with more to follow, at present the following are confirmed.

Year 7 'Cinderella', at The Octagon Theatre, Bolton on Monday 14 December 2026 during the school day. More information to follow. (Available via ParentPay from 1 September)

Year 9 'Romeo & Juliet', at The Octagon Theatre, Bolton on Friday 26 February 2027 during the school day. More information to follow. (Available on ParentPay from 1 September)

Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE Music students Halle; Set Works Concert at The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester on Friday 16 October 2026

Year 10 and 11 GCSE Drama students 'The Mousetrap' at The Lyceum Theatre, Crewe on Thursday 8 October 2027 (evening performance- compulsory)

Year 8 We are waiting for confirmation of a proposed theatre performance for Year 8, this will be accompanied by a workshop. Information to follow asap.

Current Year 7-11: New York Residential 2027: October 2027: Booking closed

Peripatetic Teaching

As an aspirational faculty, we hope to be providing students with several opportunities to extend their learning experience. To this end, please see attached information regarding our peripatetic lessons in Music and LAMDA

([Our Exams](#) | [London academy of music & dramatic art \(lamda.ac.uk\)](http://London.academy.of.music.amp.dramatic.art.lamda.ac.uk))

For pupils who wish to commence Music and/or LAMDA peripatetic lesson in September, please complete this form (pupils who have lesson currently need not complete the form, it is expected that these will continue unless the required notice has been given):

[UGS PERFORMING ARTS PERIPATETIC LESSONS – Fill in form](#)



Urmston Grammar School

Student Equipment

For all Performing Arts lessons (Drama and Music) in Years 7-9, pupils are required to have a plastic wallet that will be used to store and collate their resources. Please make 60p contribution via ParentPay no later than 7 September. Pupils will receive their wallet in their lesson.

For Drama lessons in Years 10-11: pupils must provide x2 large lever arch files with dividers

For Music lessons in Years 10-11: pupils must provide x1 large lever arch file with dividers

We look forward to welcoming you all into the new academic year in September, and in the meantime, would like to wish you a happy and healthy summer break.

Kind Regards

Mrs Helen Glen
(Head of Performing Arts & Head of Drama)

Mr Alistair Harrison
(Head of Music)