



## Extended Services in and around schools

### **Drama Enhancement**

#### **Ranelagh School - Drama enhancement**

Ranelagh School has a record of high achieved in GCSE in Drama, and wanted to create a specialist drama/dance space that would increase opportunities both for students at the school and people in the local community, and enable work through specific projects with theatre arts groups, church youth groups, the Anti Bullying Group, disaffected/ unemployed artists or socially/ economically deprived young people.

Outcomes include:

- 65 students from years 7 to 9 now attend a weekly drama club, with performances made to the local community
- Year 12 students have a professional standard facility to devise and rehearse their Sixth Form Review, with performances to a public audience.
- A group of students have formed an after school technical theatre club. The facilities are used to learn about lighting, working at height and sound equipment and there is work with a local theatre group, Cupcake Productions.
- Year 10 drama students have run theatre in education workshops and performances with local primary schools, taking ideas from themes suggested by the primary pupils.
- "The Spirit of the Act" workshops were provided by international presenter Ben Okafor, with strong links with human rights groups, chaplaincies, arts and social science departments on social justice issues.
- A local group, the Globe Players, use the facilities for their bi-monthly performances.

There have been a number of benefits that have become evident including:

- Students have benefitted enormously from the facilities - learning how lighting and sound affect a performance.
- The extra curricular drama and technical theatre clubs have gained confidence in using lighting and sound facilities; it has also enticed more students to join in.
- The primary schools' teachers thought the performances and workshops were hugely beneficial to the teaching and learning of the subject matter.
- Getting local groups to come in have broadened the opportunities for learning, and support for them
- The new A level group have created more innovative and atmospheric pieces.