



GCSE Drama

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Why study GCSE Drama?

- Apply knowledge and understanding of Drama when making, performing and responding
- Work collaboratively to generate, develop and communicate ideas
- Develop an awareness and understanding of the roles and processes undertaken in contemporary professional theatre practice
- Explore performance texts, understanding their social, cultural and historical context including the theatrical conventions of the period in which they were created
- Develop a range of theatrical skills and apply them to create performances
- Reflect on and evaluate their own work and that of others

What does the course involve?

Students will need to have a passion for performing or designing within Drama. There will be a strong emphasis on developing performance skills for an audience, either within a devised or scripted scenario. Students have the option to approach components from the perspective of an actor or a designer (lighting, sound, set, costume etc.) All students will need to analyse and reflect on their work. This can be recorded as a written essay, an audio recording or within a filmed presentation.

Students will be encouraged to develop their literacy skills when evaluating performances and studying scripts. All students will need to see at least one live theatre performance in order to complete the written exam. A school theatre trip will be organised and attendance for this is vital.

How will I be assessed?

The GCSE examination is in three parts:

Component 1 – creating a devised performance based on a given stimulus. Students will also create a portfolio of work focusing on the creation, development and evaluation of their piece. 40% of GCSE: internally assessed, externally moderated.

Component 2 – a performance of two extracts from one play text, and a written concept of performance intentions. 20% of GCSE: externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

Component 3 – a written exam focusing on the set text of DNA by Dennis Kelly and the evaluation of a live theatre performance. 40% of GCSE: externally assessed written exam.

What are my progression routes?

The GCSE qualification is a requirement for those who wish to go on to study A Level Drama but is also suitable for those who wish to develop their confidence, communication and interpersonal skills for a wide range of possible careers and future opportunities.

Additional Information

It is ideal if students want to develop both practical and theory based skills in Drama.