

GCSE Drama - Drama FAQ



Introduction to GCSE Drama

The GCSE Drama course offers you the opportunity to explore Drama as a practical art form in which ideas and meaning are communicated to an audience through choices of form, style and convention. You will create, perform and respond to Drama informed by your theoretical knowledge of Drama and theatre.

Do I have to perform?

Yes, a requirement of the course is to perform in front of an audience. To pass you must perform. There are lots of opportunities to perform in front of peers and a wider audience.

Do I have to perform a monologue?

No, unless you choose to for the practical explorations of the course. There may be a slight possibility that we explore monologues during the course when exploring set texts.



Is there written work?

Yes. This course requires you to write a reflective log and complete a written exam.

Is there a sit down exam?

This component requires learners to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed through the study of a performance text and through responding to live theatre. The paper is divided into three compulsory sections:

- Section A: Set Text
- Section B: Live Theatre Review

In the exam you are expected to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the subject content.

What is Component 1?

Component 1: Devising Theatre – NEA – worth 40% of qualification. You will be assessed on either acting or design. You will participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of devised theatre using either the techniques of an influential theatre practitioner or a genre, in response to a stimulus set by the exam board. You must produce: • a realisation of your piece of devised theatre • a portfolio of supporting evidence • an evaluation of the final performance or design.

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What is Component 2?

Component 2: Performing from a Text – NEA externally assessed by a visiting examiner and worth 20% of qualification. You will be assessed on either acting or design. You will study two extracts from the same performance text chosen by the centre. You will participate in one performance using sections of text from both extracts.

What is Component 3?

Component 3: Interpreting Theatre Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes worth 40% of qualification. Section A: A series of questions on one set text. Section B: Live Theatre Review One question, from a choice of two, requiring analysis and evaluation of a given aspect of a live theatre production seen during the course.

Do I need to be involved in Drama outside of school?

No, as long as you have a love for the subject and are willing to work hard we can work with you to develop your performance skills. There are also lots of after school clubs/activities that are available to you. You may wish to join the school show or other activities to experience more performance opportunities. There are also plenty of performance opportunities with external groups in the local area.



What will I learn?

You will learn the skills and techniques, styles as well as knowledge of professional work. You will also learn the value of oracy and group work when developing performance, along with a range of transferable skills.

Do I get to create my own work?

Yes! Throughout the course there will be multiple opportunities to create your own work in response to a task.

What transferable skills will I learn?

The GCSE Drama course caters towards further study in the performing arts. However, there are many transferable skills that you may learn throughout the course intended for another career, such as; creativity, planning, applying, consideration, collaboration, interpretation and resilience.



Who will be my teacher?

You will either have Mr Jarvis or Mrs Spencer. You are very lucky to have teachers who have specifically trained in Drama and Performing Arts and are specialists in the subject. Both who have a wealth of knowledge and experience in the performing arts industry.