

# DRAMA GCSE

Contact: Miss Searle or Mrs Solari

Board: AQA

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION



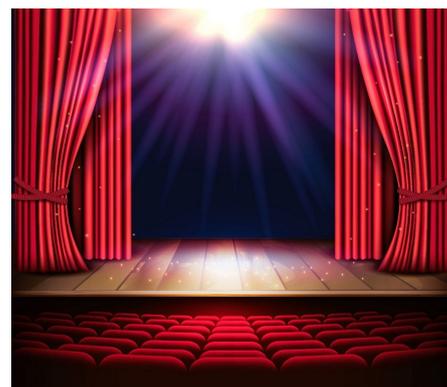
GCSE Drama is an exciting, creative and interesting course. This course will give students the opportunity to explore the subject from a range of perspectives by devising their own, original work; by bringing to life the work of a playwright; as theatre reviewers, developing their own thoughts on what makes drama and theatre successful, and as creative artists devising their own original performances. Drama is a good choice of GCSE option if you are thinking about a career in theatre/film/television but it also teaches transferable skills which are relevant in any profession; confidence, teamwork, working under pressure, public speaking, organisation etc.

## THE COURSE

### What will I study?

During your course you will consider:

- Acting
- Stage craft
- Script study
- Practitioners
- A variety of styles and genres of Theatre
- Devising
- Improvisation
- Physical Theatre
- Playwrights



### How will I be assessed?

#### Non exam assessment (60%)

1. Devising Theatre (Practical and Written)

Students will create a devised performance in groups. They will be able to select a starting point from a range of stimuli. Students will be required to keep a written portfolio of the process.

2. Texts in Practice (Practical)

Students will study a text chosen by the drama department and will perform this to an audience.

#### Exam assessment (40%)

3. The exam component will be assessed at the end of the qualification and will be 1 hour and 45 minutes in length. Students will need to complete three compulsory sections.

**To enable you to complete the evaluation of a live theatre performance, we will organise a trip to the theatre. The theatre trip is compulsory and is an essential part of the course (approximate cost £35). Payment for this trip will need to be made at the beginning of Year 10 so that the trip can be organised.**

## How is the qualification marked?

There are four key assessment objectives for the qualification that assess candidates at different points of the creative process:

- When creating and rehearsing.
- When reflecting on how meaning has been communicated on stage.
- When demonstrating their theatrical skill in performance.
- When evaluating their own work or the work of others.

## Will I enjoy this course?

You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that is both practical and creative. This course involves a lot of team work and an extra-curricular commitment. You will be expected to work in different groups, perform in front of an audience and practice mock exam papers.

GCSE Drama follows on from drama work that you will have done at Key Stage 3. You will develop your improvisation and acting skills to a higher level. You will also look at plays in more detail and look at different ways of bringing a script alive on stage as well as being creative and devising your own drama.

## What other skills might I develop?

As well as acquiring the skills involved in creating and performing Drama, you will also be able to acquire skills in working with others, problem solving and communication. You will also find that Drama will help you feel more self-confident and prepare you to deal with a range of different situations and people.

## What could I do next with GCSE Drama?

There are many things you can go on to do with a GCSE in Drama as the course will develop transferable life skills that could be used in a range of jobs and further education courses. You could go on to study Drama/Theatre Studies at College. If you are unsure about what to do next, the best thing to do is to speak to your Drama teacher who will know about the choices on offer.

You may wish to take a GCSE in Drama for its own sake, perhaps to form the basis of a future interest or as part of a range of other subjects. Or you might wish to go into a job where it is useful to have had experience of Drama, or where you will need to use some of the skills developed during this course. These might include careers in such fields as retail, travel and tourism, sales and marketing or any career that involves meeting people face to face. The study of Drama can help you to develop transferable skills that you can take into **any** career or job.

**Any questions?** Please ask Miss Searle or Mrs Solari.

