

Drama



Exam Board Edexcel

Qualification GCSE

Aims and Objectives

GCSE Drama encourages students to:

- develop a personal interest in why drama matters and be inspired, moved and changed by studying a broad, coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study;
- work imaginatively and creatively in collaborative contexts, generating, developing and communicating ideas;
- consider and explore the impact of social, historical and cultural influences on drama texts and activities;
- reflect on and evaluate their own work and the work of others;
- develop and demonstrate competence in a range of practical, creative and performance skills;
- develop a basis for their future role as active citizens in employment and society in general, as well as for the possible further study of drama;
- actively engage in the process of dramatic study in order to develop as effective and independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.

Content (Outline of Course)

Unit 1: Drama Exploration (30% of the GCSE)

Students explore a theme through practical workshops. Themes are selected by the teacher and are topical and relevant to young people today. A supporting record of work is completed alongside the practical work.

Unit 2: Exploring Play Texts (30% of the GCSE)

Students explore a published play chosen by the teacher. Students will practically explore the themes and content of the play. A supporting record of work will be produced alongside the practical work. Students will also be taken to the theatre to experience a live production and will then evaluate what they have seen as part of their coursework.

Unit 3: Drama Performance (40% of the GCSE)

Students will perform a piece of drama, either devised or scripted, in front of an examiner. The unit involves development of drama, group rehearsals and performance at the end of the unit.

Assessment

Units 1 and 2 are assessed by the teacher and externally moderated.
Unit 3 is externally examined by a visiting examiner.

Careers Guidance

Drama allows students to develop skills for life and although students may not want to pursue a career within the Performing Arts, the skills they will develop in the drama classroom will be priceless in any career they pursue. Students will find themselves to be confident speakers, able to work with many different people in varying group sizes, be aware of how to present themselves in job interview, presentations or auditions, able to analyse and evaluate and have a rich understanding of how to interact and communicate with others.

GCSE Drama is useful for students considering taking any of the following subjects at A-Level or college: English Language and Literature, Journalism, Dance, Music, Art and Design, and Media Studies.

Career opportunities for students who study GCSE Drama include: arts/theatre administration, teaching, arts journalism, directing, acting, designing, stage-management, theatre-management, technician, broadcasting, media presenting, drama therapy and scriptwriting.