

Course highlights:

GCSE Drama is an energetic, enthusiastic and supportive course which offers students the opportunity to perform, devise, direct and design for the purposes of theatre. The practical nature of the course builds independent learners, critical thinkers and also effective and reflective decision makers. Students will analyse stimulating content and a wide range of artistic forms to improve their creating, performing and responding ability. The wider breadth of exploration and specialised focus on analysing the theory behind practical decisions on stage differentiates this course from Level 2 Performing Arts course. At the heart of this course is an aim to create committed, creative and confident individuals who are self-motivated and highly developed verbally, socially and emotionally. Students, who are prepared to work hard and apply themselves, often emerge at the end of the course having achieved highly in Drama and well prepared for further education and employment.

Learning styles used:

As well as acquiring the skills involved in creating, performing and responding in drama, students will also be able to develop skills in working with others, problem solving, teamwork and communication. Students will find that drama will help them feel more self-confident and prepare them to manage a range of different situations and people.

How is it assessed?

Components	% of final grade
<u>Unit 1: Devising Drama</u> Learners will research and explore a stimulus, work collaboratively and create their own devised drama.	30%
<u>Unit 2: Presenting and Performing Texts</u> Learners develop and apply theatrical skills in acting or design by presenting a showcase of two extracts from a performance text.	30%
<u>Unit 3: Drama Performance and Response</u> Learners will explore practically a performance text to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of drama through a written response. Learners will additionally analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance.	40%

Other Information:

Stimuli explored can include sensitive and thought provoking topic areas and language. All material is age appropriate.

The work consists of practical workshops and presentations, mostly small group performances and sometimes individual work. Written coursework is an individual response. The written examination will be based on one play explored throughout the two years and a written analysis of a live theatre show. Students are expected to attend all live theatre shows. There are also two performance examinations in front of an invited audience.

Sixth form pathways & careers available from this course: Our course lays a solid foundation for students to excel in further education. Many successful students have subsequently gone on to take degrees in Drama, Music, English Literature and Language, Law, Teaching, Psychology, Criminology and Film.

Employability Skills: Drama offers a cohesive and unique range of transferable skills which can be taken into any career or job. In Drama we aim to build students' confidence and communication skills, teach them ways of self-managing and motivating others, help them become reflective learners, and develop as critical thinkers and creative inquirers. These skills will make students desirable for all jobs, particularly jobs in areas such as marketing and management, journalism, the media, performing arts, retail, travel and tourism, sales and public speaking.

Course combinations:

This course complements GCSE English, GCSE Music and GCSE Art & Design.

Please see **Mr Sheppard (C10)** to discuss this course.