

Drama GCSE

What do you study?

Component One 40% – Devising: a study of a theme or topic, previous examples being war, isolation and domestic violence. Assessment is through **performance** and a **portfolio of work** that can be presented in handwritten/typed or verbally recorded form that records the process from initial ideas through rehearsal to final performance.

Component Two 20% – Performance from Text- performance **or** design (Costume, Lighting, Set or Sound) of two extracts from a complete text, previous texts studied "Blue Remembered Hills" and "A Curious Incident of a Dog in the Night". Assessment is through an externally assessed performance/design Portfolio and presentation.

Component Three 40% – Theatre Makers in Practice- 1 hour 30 minutes written examination.

Section A: Bringing text to Life – short and extended responses based on an extract that is given in the examination from a whole play text that you will practically explore throughout the course.

Section B: Live Theatre Evaluation – two questions evaluating a piece of live theatre that we will go to see as a group. 'Billy Elliott' is this current year's chosen production.

Significant differences from KS3?

There is continuity that runs from KS3 to KS4, but the material is more challenging. There is a greater expectation of commitment, ownership and focus in the exploration of extended projects that will ask you to reflect on your own work and that of others through oral and written evaluation. Students will be expected to commit to extra-curricular rehearsal. You will be working with well-motivated students who have chosen the course.

Why Study Drama?

The GCSE course is not about preparing you to become an actor, although it does this as well. The course is about developing a set of core skills that are enormously applicable to other subjects and the world of professional work. As the course is primarily about exploration there is a great focus on the skills of working within a group. Performing and visual arts subjects encourage a different way of learning that focusses on self-reflection, evaluation, ownership of the work and a shared responsibility for its creation.

Exam Board Link:

<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/drama-and-theatre/gcse/>