

# GCSE Drama

**Examination Board:** AQA

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## Why study Drama?

This is an excellent course designed to engage and encourage you to become confident performers and designers with the skills you need to succeed in the Performing Arts industry. You are also lucky to get to experience your lessons and to perform in our professional theatre.

You will develop your acting skills and your ability to collaborate with others, think analytically and evaluate effectively. You will participate in several workshops ranging from Stage Combat to Abstract Theatre. You will gain the confidence to pursue your own ideas, reflect and refine your efforts. Whatever your future holds, students of GCSE Drama emerge with a toolkit of transferable skills, applicable both in further studies and in the workplace.

## Possible next steps (including careers)

Drama qualifications look great on university and job applications as employers know you will be confident, enthusiastic and a strong team player – great skills for any profession.

In addition – with Drama you could go into the following professions:

- Actor
- Director
- Production Manager
- Film
- Television
- Theatre Schools / Teaching
- Stage Manager
- Lighting Designer
- Sound Designer

## Aptitudes needed

You will need to be interested in Theatre and live performance work. Appreciation for movie and television work will also help support understanding of performance work.

## Assessment & Topic Structure

Year 10	Year 11
Devising and creating work in response to a range of different stimulus and practitioners such as Frantic Assembly, Artaud, Brecht and Stanislavski.	Exploring the play Blood Brothers with a focus on application of physical and vocal skills and interpretation of character.
Exploring and analysing the production of Billy Elliot The Musical	Texts in Practice – exploring a range of different genres and performance opportunities

<b>Assessment Structure</b>		
<b>Component 1: Understanding drama</b>	<b>Component 2: Devising drama (practical)</b>	<b>Component 3: Texts in practice (practical)</b>
<p><b>What's assessed:</b></p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre.</p> <p>Study of one set play from a choice of six – currently Blood Brothers</p> <p>Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers – currently Billy Elliot</p>	<p><b>What's assessed:</b></p> <p>Process of creating devised drama</p> <p>Performance of devised drama (students may contribute as performer or designer)</p> <p>Analysis and evaluation of own work</p>	<p><b>What's assessed:</b></p> <p>Performance of two extracts from one play (students may contribute either as a performer or designer)</p> <p>Free choice of play but it must however contrast with the set play chosen for Component 1</p>
<p><b>How it's assessed:</b></p> <p>Written exam: 1 hour and 45 minutes.</p> <p>Open book</p> <p>80 marks</p> <p>40% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>How it's assessed:</b></p> <p>Devising log (60 marks)</p> <p>Devised performance (20 marks)</p> <p>80 marks in total</p> <p>40% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>How it's assessed:</b></p> <p>Performance of Extract 1 (20 marks) and Extract 2 (20 marks)</p> <p>40 marks in total</p> <p>20% of GCSE</p>
<p><b>Questions:</b></p> <p>Section A: multiple choice (4 marks)</p> <p>Section B: four questions on a given extract from the set play chosen (44 marks)</p> <p>Section C: one question (from a choice) on the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production (32 marks)</p>	<p>This component is marked by teachers and moderated by AQA</p>	<p>This component is marked by teachers and moderated by AQA</p>