

IGCSE DRAMA - 0411

Why should I choose GCSE Drama as an option?

Confidence: Drama gives you the opportunity to push yourself to perform. You will be able to grow in confidence, develop your performance and public speaking skills and overcome the fear of making mistakes in a fun, creative and supportive environment.

Teamwork: No subject teaches you how to work well in a team quite like Drama. In Drama you are nearly always working with a group.

Creativity: Drama stimulates you to be constantly creative. Drama will force you to regularly come up with exciting, functional and convincing ideas, to a deadline.

Empathy: When you act in Drama you put yourself in to another person's shoes and try to identify with them and their situation.

Course Content:

Through practical and theoretical study, the course aims to develop an understanding and enjoyment of drama, developing group and individual skills and studying ways to communicate ideas and feelings to an audience. The course will cover stylistic conventions associated with different genres, and you will approach these from the point of view of actor, director and designer. The dramatic concepts of structure and plot, characterisation and role, dialogue, physicality, pacing, tension, spatial awareness and proxemics will be explored in both devised and scripted pieces.

How will I learn?

Drama is a very a practical subject, so learning will take place through the practical process devising original pieces and performing extracts from scripted plays.

In lessons you will be encouraged to:

- Work in groups and as an individual, contributing your own ideas to the piece.
- Devise, improvise, rehearse and perform throughout each project.
- Select and use a range of Drama techniques in your practical work.
- Discuss, analyse, constructively criticise, evaluate and reflect upon your own performance and the work of others in the class, identifying ways to further improve the piece.
- Develop the use of your voice and physicality to improve your acting skills.

How will I be assessed? Paper

1: Written examination

40% of your final grade, the written exam lasts two and a half hours. The exam consists of short answer questions and two essays which are based on the 'pre-release' material, issued five months before the exam. This material includes the study of a play extract and stimuli for devising an original drama piece.

Paper 2: Coursework

60% of your final grade is given for three pieces of practical work; one individual piece (monologue), one group scripted piece and one original devised group piece. These are internally assessed and externally moderated. You will be assessed your ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the possibilities of the repertoire, and how to interpret and realise it in a live performance.