



Key Stage 4 Core Curriculum and Option Subjects

GCSE Drama

All students opting for drama will study Edexcel GCSE. From Year 9 students will explore a variety of themes using performance and drama strategies. In Year 10 they begin to explore more detailed themes and plays which will prepare them for their assessment in year 11. Finally the Year 11 students will be assessed on their understanding of the use and performance of drama through three assessments units.

A GCSE in drama prepares students for the outside world and is not just about people who want to be actors. Students will finish the course with added confidence and a strong ability to work as part of a group, also gaining excellent communication skills. All of which are of benefit in higher education and the workplace.

Students opting for the subject should have an interest in drama and appreciate that they will need to perform in front of others.



Progression

The qualification allows progression to A Level or performing arts Level 3 qualifications.



Course Content

Unit 1 –Exploring a theme 30%

A theme is presented to the students and over 6 hours, they will explore these using drama strategies. This work is then evaluated in a 2000 word written response.

Unit 2 –Exploring a play 30%

A play is explored over 6 hours and a 1000 word written evaluation is produced. Students will also watch a piece of live theatre and write a 2000 word review of the performance

Unit 3- Performance 40%

Students are given a starting point and asked to create a performance of between 15 – 45 minutes. They can either perform or offer a technical support to a performance, for example lighting or sound.

Assessment

Units 1 and 2 are internally assessed and work is then externally moderated.

Assessment for Unit 3 is by an external examiner. Students perform their play and are marked on that performance.

There is no written examination for GCSE Drama.