

## Introduction to GCSE Drama

### Why study Drama?

In this course you will look at the drama process as well as the final product from the perspective of Director, Designer, Deviser and Performer. This will help you to improve your performance skills by creating your own work and recreating or realising existing work. You will develop your imagination and your ability to create drama. You will learn how to communicate intention to an audience and develop the skill of working with others to a common purpose.

### You will study:

- \* Character and Context;
- \* Structure, Shaping and Plot;
- \* Audience;
- \* Defining Performance Space;
- \* Improvisation;
- \* Genre, Style and Convention;
- \* The Semiotics (signs and symbols) of Drama and Theatre.

### You will learn:

- \* How to communicate;
- \* How to plan by selecting and interpreting appropriate genres, styles and conventions;
- \* How to develop your critical skills, through evaluation, analysis and reflection.

### Assessment:

*Subject to QCA approval.*

The examination papers cover the full range of grades from G to A\*. There are two option routes through the course. Everyone will do coursework and then you may choose either to do a written paper or a practical test called a Realisation Test.

### Coursework

You will complete two assignments over the course. In the first assignment you will study texts, exploring them through practical work through the 'eyes' of Director, Designer, Deviser and Performer and cover the topics listed above. In the second assignment you will devise a piece of drama from a stimulus (e.g. a photograph or poem) that your teacher will give you. You will need to keep a portfolio of evidence of your work which your teacher will mark.

### Written Paper (2 hours)

If you choose the option in which you take this written paper you will be given a piece of script and a stimulus item (eg a photograph or poem) by the examining board. You will explore these through practical work and then answer questions on these items in the examination paper. There will be both short answer questions and longer answer questions in the examination paper.

### Realisation Test

If you choose the option in which you take the practical test you will be given a piece of script and a stimulus item (eg a photograph or poem) by the examining board. You will explore these through practical work and develop one piece to perform to an examiner who will visit the school. You will need to keep a portfolio of evidence of your planning work which your teacher will mark.



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