



Drama & Theatre Arts

Subject Leader Mrs A Fisher

Examination Board AQA

Overview of course content

The GCSE Drama course consists of a range of practical work and the study of various play texts. Theatre visits are a part of the course and will help you to understand and appreciate how plays are professionally presented and performed; you will be taught to write theatre reviews and how to use what you see in your own performances.

Drama can help you to express yourself confidently and to understand many things around you. It provides opportunities for cross-curricular activities such as research into literature, historical events and social issues when developing your own plays. Understanding what working together as a group means and appreciating your role in it are two of the educational purposes of Drama.

Performance also develops self-discipline and responsibility for both yourself and others; it can also make you more adaptable and quick thinking.

Summary of Assessment

Unit 1: Devising Theatre

Non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated

40% of qualification

60 marks

- Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of devised theatre based on **either** the work of a theatre practitioner **or** a genre in response to a stimulus set by WJEC.
- Learners complete a written evaluation of the devised performance under formal supervision
- Learners will be assessed on **either** acting **or** design
- Learners work in groups of between **two** and **five** performers.
- Up to **four** additional learners, each working on a different design skill, may work with each performing group.

Unit 2: Performing Theatre

Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner

20% of qualification

60 marks

- Learners participate in a performance based on **two** 10 minute extracts from a performance text of their own choice.
- Learners will be assessed on **either** acting **or** design
- Learners work in groups of between **two** and **four** performers.
- Up to **two** additional learners, each working on a different design skill, may work with each performing group.

Unit 3: Interpreting Theatre

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

40% of qualification

60 marks

Section A: Set Text

A series of questions on **one** set text explored as an actor, designer and director from a choice of five:

- **Romeo and Juliet** William Shakespeare
- **100 Imaginary Body** (Diene Petherle, Neil Monaghan and Christopher Heimann)
- **1984** (George Orwell), adapted Robert Icke and Duncan Macmillan
- **Two Faces** Manon Steffan Ros
- **The Shadow of the Sickle** (Islwyn Ffowc Elis), adapted Sion Eirian.

All texts will be available in English and Welsh.

Section B: Live Theatre Review

One question, from a choice of two, requiring analysis and evaluation of one live theatre production seen during the course.

Learning Pathways post 16

Drama can help prepare you for work, not just in theatre, film, television and radio, but in any career requiring the understanding of others and their points of view e.g. Personnel and Management, and in any profession requiring presentation skills such as Law and Marketing.

Many companies and businesses now use drama techniques to train staff for management. Communication and working with others are two of the most important key skills in life and Drama is one of the best means of acquiring those key and life skills.