

# **DRAMA GCSE**

## **What are the key features?**

The GCSE Drama course builds on the skills explored in Years 7-9. Across two years, students will practically explore scripts, devise an original performance and discuss live professional theatre. The course is a mixture of practical and theory work.

## **How is it assessed?**

**Component 1:** Devising Theatre (40%) → Completed and assessed internally in Year 10. In groups, students devise their own original performance based on a stimulus set by the exam board. To accompany their practical work, students will also complete a written portfolio explaining their ideas and how these developed, as well as a final written evaluation of their performance.

**Component 2:** Performing from a Text (20%) → Completed in Year 11 and assessed by a visiting examiner. In groups, students learn and perform two short extracts from a play of their choice.

**Component 3:** Interpreting Theatre (40%) → Started in Year 10 and assessed in a written exam at the end of Year 11. The exam paper is divided into Section A and B. In Section A, students answer questions about the set text, *An Inspector Calls*, that they will have practically studied in lessons. In Section B, students will write about a professional performance we will have studied in lessons.

## **What particular skills are required to succeed?**

Ability to work with others in a group is essential. Whilst confidence is something we continue to build and develop in this course, students should ultimately understand that performance in front of others is a key element that is expected.

## **Why study this course?**

The creative industries are the fastest growing part of the UK's economy, one of the few sectors in which we are celebrated world leaders and in which there is huge employment growth. Even if students do not wish to become a part of this, Drama builds on numerous transferrable skills which will benefit students both in their studies and later careers. Ultimately, Drama encourages creative thinking and develops students' confidence as well as their intrapersonal and problem solving skills.

## **What equipment is required?**

For Component 3, if students wish to annotate and make notes on the set text, they will need their own copy of the play.

## **If I have any questions which teacher(s) do I ask?**

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