

Exam Board: AQA
Qualification: Drama GCSE
Assessment Information: 1 written examination- 1hr 45mins
2 practical examinations
1 pieces of course work, 2500 words

[Link to official specification](#)

Department Information:

The Drama Department is a thriving department that is well regarded in the school and wider community. Drama is taught from Year 7 to Year 13 with a strong up take and consistently excellent GCSE results. The department prides itself in, not only teaching the examination curriculum to an excellent standard, but also inspiring students to engage in a rich range of drama and theatre experiences. The department offers a wide extra-curricular provision and encourages students to engage in the clubs on offer. Students are expected to attend a range of trips to ensure they experience a range of Live Theatre. The department arranges for workshops from practising theatre makers allowing students to engage in current theatre practice.

ACHIEVE in the curriculum:

*The Drama course embodies all the ACHIEVE values through its mixture of learning approaches. Students apply their **versatility** and **collaboration** through their practical work and working as a group. Their **endurance** is tested through their application of a range of styles of theatre to a range of text. Their work is expected to be **ambitious**. A safe and **happy** working environment is created for students to be able to achieve their potential in this subject.*

Curriculum Aims & Intent:

We want students to have an inspiring experience of Drama GCSE. This qualification emphasises practical creativity alongside developing students understanding of dramatic theory. Students learn to collaborate with others, think analytically and evaluate effectively. They gain the confidence to pursue their own ideas, reflect and refine their efforts. Students learn through experience, seeing theatre and making theatre for themselves.

Students choose to develop as a:

- performer
- designer (lighting, sound, set, costume, puppets)
- combination of these.

Whichever option they choose, students will gain many invaluable skills linking to a wide range of careers. The hope is that students will engage with Drama at A Level.

Resources:

*BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zrnjwty>
Blood Brothers play guide- https://www.illuminatepublishing.com/wp-content/uploads/samples/Blood_Brothers_Play_Guide_for_AQA_GCSE_Drama/22/GCSE_study_guide-https://www.illuminatepublishing.com/product/aqa-gcse-drama-student-book-revised-edition
Design guide- <https://www.aqabookshop.co.uk/product/aqa-gcse-drama-designing-drama-lighting-sound-set-costume-puppet-design/>*

How we keep parents informed:

Year 10 - Progress reports are published 4 times per year, in October, November, March and July, with a face-to-face parents' evening in March.

How parents can help their child:

*Attend as much live theatre as possible
Testing students on key terminology and the meaning for both performance and*

		Students will be given an extract/multiple extracts to rehearse and learn over Christmas for a performance in term 3.		
3	Component 1- Set Text Practical performance of Blood Brothers	The focus this term is writing responses to examination questions. Students will develop their skills in decoding questions, answering in a concise way with purpose using subject specific terminology in response to an extract from the play Students will also complete a practical performance of an extract as a pair or group and perform to an audience.		PPE examination Practical performance
4	Component 1- Live Theatre	Students will embark upon the final section of the written examination which is the live theatre exam. Students will watch a piece of digital theatre to analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of 3 key moments. They will learn how to respond to a live theatre question. This is a 32 mark answer. Students will sit an in lesson PPE for this section of the paper		PPE examination
5 and 6	Component 2- Devising Practical performance and NEA written work	Students will begin work on their devised pieces, applying the knowledge gained from the year of how to create dynamic and interesting performance. They will work as a performer or designer to produce a piece of theatre based on a range of stimuli given by the teacher. They will work in groups of 2-6 students. Throughout this term students will complete Section 1 and Section 2 of their NEA written work. Section 1 is their response to the stimulus and Section 2 documents their collaboration and development through the process.	Versatility is key in this term to enable students to explore performance choices. They will collaborate to strive for excellence in their work. Students will show integrity through their development genuine and thoughtful characters who have depth.	Component 2 formal examination- 20 marks Section 1 coursework- 20 marks Section 2 coursework- 20 marks