



Dear Parents/Carers

THE YEAR AHEAD IN YEAR 11 GCSE DRAMA

At the start of the year, I would like to provide you with some information on how you can support your son/daughter with their GCSE Drama course, as well as some of the support that will be provided by the department.

REFLECTING ON YEAR 10

Year 10 has been a successful year for our GCSE Drama students. We watched a range of live theatre, developing students' understanding of **performance, design and theatre evaluation**, including *Kindness*, *2:22 A Ghost Story*. Some students also experienced digital productions including *A Monster Calls* and *Small Island*.

We also saw **Max and Zoe** take starring roles in our recent summer production, while many GCSE students were involved in *Beauty and the Beast*. We have also recently seen many of our cohort brave auditions for this year's musical *Frozen*. These experiences are hugely valuable in developing the confidence and practical skills needed for GCSE examinations. **Please continue to encourage your child to take part in Drama opportunities both inside and outside of school.**

YEAR 11

Students will watch **at least one further live theatre production**, which will support their final **Component 3 Section B** examination preparation. Students will explore performer skills and design choices and develop their ability to analyse and evaluate live theatre. These trips are compulsory, so please get in touch if there are any barriers to your son/daughter's attendance when the dates are released.

KEY DATES

- **Mon 28 Sept** – Component 1 Devising performance Examination, off timetable all day (non -uniform allowed) P4–5 Exam
- **Tues 29 Sept, 6pm** – Performance for Parents/Carers, Drama Studio
- **Thurs 15 Oct** – Evaluation NEA, P4–5
- **Mon 2 Nov** – NEA Portfolio Deadline, before P3
- **2–16 Dec** – All subject written Mock Examinations
- **Spring Term** – Component 2 Mock Performance for Parents/Carers – TBC
- **Early Spring** – Component 2 Performance to external examiner – TBC
- **Early Spring** – Final Live Theatre Trip – TBC
- **14 May 2027** – **GCSE DRAMA Component 3 Exam**

EXPECTATIONS & SUPPORT

During rehearsal periods for assessed work, both devised and scripted, students should attend 1-2 rehearsals per week until their performance is complete.

We will also be holding Clinics to support exam preparation and technique. These will be at the following times:

- **Monday, Lunch:** Target Grade 5+
- **Thursday, Lunch:** Target Grades 3–4
- **Mon/Thurs/Fri, After School:** Individual support where required

All students should attend at least one clinic and confirm attendance with myself in advance (day before at least), so that resources and support can be prepared.

RESOURCES

To support your child with revision, quality resources can be found using **CGP GCSE booklets, Eduqas resources, GCSE Bitesize, class books, exemplar materials and YouTube.**

HOW IS GCSE DRAMA ASSESSED?

Our Section A set text is (7.) *The IT*, by Vivienne Franzmann

Component 1: Devising Theatre Non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated 40% of qualification
Learners will be assessed on either acting or design. Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of devised theatre using either the techniques of an influential theatre practitioner or a genre, in response to a stimulus set by WJEC. Learners must produce: • a realisation of their piece of devised theatre • a portfolio of supporting evidence • an evaluation of the final performance or design.
Component 2: Performing from a Text Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner 20% of qualification
Learners will be assessed on either acting or design. Learners study two extracts from the same performance text chosen by the centre. Learners participate in one performance using sections of text from both extracts.
Component 3: Interpreting Theatre Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes 40% of qualification
Section A: Set Text for assessment up to and including 2023 A series of questions on one set text from a choice of five: 1. <i>The Tempest</i>, William Shakespeare 2. <i>The Caucasian Chalk Circle</i>, Bertolt Brecht 3. <i>Hard to Swallow</i>, Mark Wheeler 4. <i>War Horse</i>, Michael Morpurgo, adapted by Nick Stafford 5. <i>DNA</i>, Dennis Kelly.
Section A: Set Text for assessment from 2024 onwards A series of questions on one set text from a choice of seven: 1. <i>Macbeth</i> William Shakespeare 2. <i>An Inspector Calls</i> J.B. Priestley 3. <i>Find Me</i> Olwen Wymark 4. <i>Noughts & Crosses</i> Malorie Blackman 5. <i>Refugee Boy</i> Benjamin Zephaniah 6. <i>I Love You Mum – I Promise I Won't Die</i> Mark Wheeler 7. <i>The IT</i> Vivienne Franzmann.
Section B: Live Theatre Review One question, from a choice of two, requiring analysis and evaluation of a given aspect of a live theatre production seen during the course.

Thank you for your continued support.

Rebecca Olaleye (Drama Teacher)