

DRAMA

EXAMINING BOARD: AQA

TITLE: GCSE DRAMA

ACCREDITATION: GCSE – full range of grades – A* - G
60% Practical Work 40% Written Examination

NATURE OF THE SUBJECT:

In this subject you will learn about plays and the ways in which playwrights achieve their effects by exploring scripts practically, creating your own work for performance and going to the theatre.

CONTENT:

You will have the option of learning about the following in detail, for the examination you will need to have looked at two different elements:

- **Performance** - Devised Thematic Work for Performance, Acting, Improvisation, Theatre-in-Education, Physical Theatre.
- **Design/Technical** – Set, Costume, Properties, Masks, Puppets, Lighting, Sound, Stage – Management.

NATURE OF THE WORK:

The lessons are always practical. You will choose your own groups and you will work as part of a team to create work for performance or to demonstrate. You will have to carry out research into what life was like for the characters in your plays and the set plays; explore themes and the messages for your audience; consider the style and genre of your work. Each week you will assess your progress and write up an evaluation. Theatre visits will be arranged and it is recommended that you attend. You will learn to become more aware of yourself and others. You will develop your creativity, self-confidence, time-management, teamwork, communication and inter-personal skills.

ASSESSMENT:

In both Year 10 and Year 11 you will be assessed on two practical projects, one improvised and one scripted. You will study the script of the practical project in detail.

Controlled Assessment: This is worth **60%** of the final examination mark.

Performance Options:

- Following teacher observations, discussions with you about progress and your weekly written evaluations, you will be given a mark out of 15 for preparation.
- The final performance will be given a mark out of 45.

Design/Technical Options:

- Your notes, diagrams, sketches will be given a preparation mark out of 15.
- The final object(s) / demonstration will be given a mark of 45.

Each project is marked out of 60. The best mark two marks from your four projects will make up your controlled assessment mark out of 120. These must be two different options.

Written Paper: This is worth **40%** of the over all mark.

At the end of the course you will have a written examination. You will answer **two** questions. Section A of the paper is about the process you have gone through to create your practical performances. Section B is on a scripted play we will have studied and performed as a group and you will be expected to write about how you prepared and performed that role.

POSSIBLE CAREERS:

After successfully completing this course at GCSE level you could study an advanced course in Drama or BTEC Performing Arts. You will have learnt skills needed in a wide variety of careers, particularly those that require strong communication, inter-personal and managerial skills. After studying this subject at advanced level you could go on to study a degree in any subject, not just Drama. This subject provides a firm foundation for any career since it develops basic life skills, though of course it could lead to a career in the theatre, media or teaching.

WHO IS SUITABLE FOR THIS COURSE:

You will enjoy this course if you enjoy working with others and can set yourself deadlines and keep to them. You should be the type of person who is prepared to get up and experiment with ideas in a supportive environment. You should enjoy being creative, making decisions and solving problems of all kinds.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Please see Miss V Hamm – Drama Studio / C12
Mrs L Jones – Drama Studio / C13