



Drama

Outline of Course

“All the world’s a stage, and all the men and women are merely players.” (SHAKESPEARE)

This course offers students the opportunity to explore drama as a practical art form. Students will create and perform/design drama using their theatrical knowledge. They will be encouraged to become confident performers and designers, all of them transferable to all walks of life. Students will also analyse and deconstruct texts, to find meaning, themes, and contexts. It is important that students can work with others and be generous with their time (there will be times when rehearsals will take place after school).

The types of styles of performance that we explore in GCSE are as follows: *tension and suspense, gothic horror/grand guignol, psychological thrillers, non-naturalism, and naturalism.*

We are offering two pathways for completing the GCSE:

1. Acting
2. Design

The design routes that we offer are costume (including hair and make-up), lighting (including projections), set and props (including projections), sound and puppetry. These are interchangeable for each unit of work, e.g., puppetry in component 2 and costume (including hair and make-up) for component 3.

The course is divided into three components:

COMPONENT 1 (40%)	COMPONENT 2 (40%)	COMPONENT 3 (20%)
Understanding drama: written exam 1hr 45 minutes. Students must deconstruct a set text (Noughts & Crosses) and write from a designer, performer, and director’s perspective. Students must also evaluate the success of live theatre.	Devising drama: practical and written. Students will create a piece of drama that is based on a set style (gothic horror/grand guignol) for an audience. Students can opt for design in this module if they would like. Practical work is accompanied with a podcast to document process.	Texts in practice: practical. Students will bring two extracts from one play to life* (in the style of naturalism). Students can opt for design in this module if they would like. There is no written work in this component.

***Examples of past scripts used: 1984, A Christmas Carol, The Pillowman, Network, Ghost Stories, The Dumb Waiter, Woman in Black, Two, Clytemnestra, Antigone, and The Wasp.**

What the GCSE course will look like:

Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Term 1: Building up skills Term 2: start component 2 & explore set text for component 1	Continue with component 1 & 2	Refreshing component 1 and completion of component 3.

It is important that students get the opportunity to see live theatre to inspire them and get ideas. Here are a few pieces that we have seen in recent years: *Ocean at the End of the Lane*, *Woman in Black*, *Yule Lads*, *Hound of the Baskerville*, *The 39 Steps*, and *The Play That Goes Wrong*.

Choose GCSE Drama and turn ordinary moments into extraordinary performances. It's not just a subject; it's a journey of self-discovery.

For further information see:

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