

Subject overview: Drama (KS4)

Subject Rationale (Intent) linked to [whole school curriculum mission](#)

Drama is a practical, engaging and creative GCSE for learners to study. It provides opportunities to understand and create drama as a practical art form in which ideas and meaning are communicated to an audience through informed artistic choices. It allows learners to study drama in an academic setting, interrogating this art form and applying their knowledge and understanding to the process of creating and developing drama and to their own performance work. It will prepare learners for the further study of Drama including our A Level in Drama as well as developing transferable skills desired by further education, higher education and employers in all sectors of industry. It creates independent learners, critical thinkers and effective decision makers – all personal attributes that can make them stand out as they progress through their education and into employment.

Additional details

GCSE Drama encourages learners to:

- apply knowledge and understanding of drama when making, performing and responding to drama
- explore performance texts, understanding their social, cultural and historical context including the theatrical conventions of the period in which they were created
- develop a range of theatrical skills and apply them to create performances
- work collaboratively to generate, develop and communicate ideas
- develop as creative, effective, independent and reflective students able to make informed choices in process and performance
- contribute as an individual to a theatrical performance
- reflect on and evaluate their own work and that of others
- develop an awareness and understanding of the roles and processes undertaken in contemporary professional theatre practice

YEAR 10			
TERM	Topic sequence (What are you teaching?)	Topic sequence rationale (Why are you teaching this? How does it link to prior learning? Any notable links to St Edmund's curriculum mission)	Main method of assessment?
Term 1:1	Devising Drama	Link to Performance and Response - how do your students also learn about the exam alongside their coursework? The Devising performance alongside the 2000 word portfolio is 40% of the students final GCSE grade. Students will have workshops on different practitioners that they can use methods and can refer to in the final exam.	Video of devised performance and written evaluation portfolio . Internally marked and internally and externally moderated
Term 1:2			
Term 2:1			
Term 2:2			
Term 3:1	Presenting and Performing Texts	Link to Performance and Response - how do your students also learn about the exam alongside their coursework? Students will be learning and rehearsing two scripted extracts and completing a pro forma on the play, this will go to the visiting examiner who will also mark their performance. The rehearsal period and workshops will be useful for students when answering questions on their future exam paper on both acting and directing.	Visiting examiner assesses live Scripted Performances and written portfolio
Term 3:2			

YEAR 11			
TERM	Topic sequence (What are you teaching?)	Topic sequence rationale (Why are you teaching this? How does it link to prior learning? Any notable links to St Edmund's curriculum mission)	Main method of assessment?
Term 1:1	Presenting and Performing Texts As above	Same as above.	Visiting examiner assesses live Scripted Performances and written portfolio
Term 1:2			
Term 2:1			
Term 2:2	Presenting and Performing Texts	Same as above.	60min written

	As above Performance and Response	Students will be learning about Blood Brothers again and all technical elements of theatre. Physical and vocal techniques, staging, lighting and costume. These theory lessons will be imperative for the students' written exam in the summer term.	Summer exam including written evaluation
Term 3:1	Performance and Response	As above. We prepare students for their written exam using a range of teaching strategies to improve independence and metacognitive techniques. We ensure students can apply their knowledge learned across both key stages for their final exam.	60min written Summer exam including written evaluation