Name of Course	DRAMA
Examination Board	AQA

What is Drama?

Drama is a creative, exciting and challenging course. Throughout GCSE Drama you will be expected to create interesting and diverse characters/designs within a number of performances. GCSE Drama requires you to interpret texts and stimuli to create meaning on stage and on paper. Theatre is an expressive art which reflects and directs the world we live in today.

What skills will I learn?

You will learn the demands of a range of performance styles. You will evaluate as an actor/designer, audience member and director. You will learn how to analyse, discuss and evaluate your point of view in both spoken and written form. Candidates who have completed the course demonstrate a social intelligence, the ability to adapt ideas and work with others. These life skills are essential within future placements and are developed everyday within the Drama classroom.

What will I do in Drama?

In KS4 you will study these topics:

Year 10

- Drama Fundamentals
- Key Practitioners, Genres and Styles
- Devising Process and Performance
- Set text study and performance
- Live Theatre

Year 11

- Scripted Performance
- Set Text
- Live Theatre
- Preparation for the final exam

How will I be assessed?

Component 1 – 40% of your GCSE

This is the final GCSE written exam, which is split into three sections:

- Section A Multiple Choice
- Section B Set Text
- Section C Live Theatre Evaluation

Component 2 – 40% of your GCSE

This is a devised performance, which is divided into two sections and assessed internally:

- Performance 20 marks
- Devising Log Book 60 marks.

Component 3 – 20% of your GCSE

This is a scripted performance, using two key extracts and assessed by an external examiner.

Useful websites, helpful reading, places to visit

- 1. Look on the 'Drama' section of our website to have a look at resources that current GCSE students are using.
- 2. Drama GCSE Bitesize is a good guide and introduction to the subject.

Theatre performances at The Hawth (Crawley), The National Theatre (London) and The Theatre Royal (Brighton) would be useful for anybody interested in taking this subject.

AQA Drama GCSE

Particular issues for this subject

Students should be prepared to participate fully in performances and be willing to discuss and write about their experiences and opinions. Only opt for this subject if you are happy to perform in front of an audience and work incredibly hard during lessons and after school to rehearse for different pieces. Design is an alternative to each component and students can choose to work as a Sound, Costume or Set designer rather than as a performer, however, contributions to group acting workshops is essential. Good attendance, team work, focus, commitment and energy are needed if you are to gain a good grade in this subject. Students should be prepared for a consistent amount of theory work which this course consists of, this includes essay writing for the written exam and for the Devising Log Book.

For further information, please contact Miss Bousfield and Mrs Newman.