



## Why should I study GCSE Drama?

This is the course for you if...



- You have a passion for theatre, whether as a performer or in a production role such as costume design, sound, lighting, stage management, or any other technical discipline that contributes to high-quality theatre.
- You enjoy a blend of practical exploration and written, analytical work.  
You want to develop essential life skills including teamwork, leadership, confidence, creativity, and effective communication.

**Please note:** While the course includes both practical and written components, you do not need to be a performer to succeed. Students have the opportunity to explore design elements (such as lighting, sound, or set design), and a limited number may choose to be formally assessed through this route.

## What will I study?



### Component 1 – Devising Theatre (*Responding to a Stimulus*)

- Realising** – Apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions → Practical performance.
- Devising** – Create and develop ideas to communicate meaning for performance → This includes a 750–900-word written portfolio of supporting evidence.
- Evaluation** – analyse and evaluate your own work in a 1 hour, 45 minutes written evaluation completed under supervised conditions.

### Component 2 – Performing from a Text

Students learn and perform two key extracts from a published play for an external examiner.

Candidates may also choose a design route—working as a lighting, sound, set, or costume designer—collaborating with performers to bring the text to life.

### Component 3 – Interpreting Theatre

**At the end of Year 11, students complete a written exam assessing their understanding of how theatre is created.**

- Section A:**  
A series of questions assessing knowledge and understanding of an **extract** from the set text of *Noughts and Crosses*. **One** question assessing knowledge and understanding of the **wider** text.
- Section B:**  
**One** question (from a choice of two) analysing and evaluating a specific aspect of a live or streamed theatre production (15 marks)

## How will I be assessed?



- One written exam at the end of Year 11 (Component 3)
- A devised performance, accompanied by a portfolio and written evaluation (Component 1)
- A performance of two extracts from a play for an external examiner (Component 2)

## Which skills will I develop and use?



- The ability to work effectively as part of a team
- Strong collaborative and communication skills
- Creative responses to briefs and practical challenges
- Analytical and evaluative writing skills
- Confidence in presenting ideas and performing or designing for an audience

## How will I be able to use this subject in my future career?



This course leads to a GCSE Drama qualification, with opportunities to progress to A-Level Drama, Performing Arts BTECs, and degree-level study. However, the value of Drama extends far beyond theatre careers. Employers and universities recognise that Drama students are: **articulate communicators, confident problem-solvers, adaptable team players** and **creative thinkers**. These skills are highly transferable and beneficial for careers in law, medicine, nursing, policing, the armed forces, retail, education, hospitality, and many other fields.