

GCSE 9-1 Drama (Eduqas)

Making the Grade. Learn the pathway to academic success.

Subject Teachers: Robyn Jeffery and Greg Ingram

Curriculum Area: Performing Arts

Key Dates:

- Mock component 1 – Spring Term 2021
- Mock component 2 – Autumn Term 2020
- Mock component 3 – June 2021

Overview of Year 9:

We use Year 9 as a skills development and foundation year for the GCSE Drama course. Students are introduced to the three exam components as well as investigation of theatre practitioners, style, genre and live theatre. During Year 9 we will run mock assessments for all three components and study at least two of the set texts.

Component 1: Devising Theatre (40% of qualification) As a group, students will be asked to create, develop and perform a piece of devised theatre using either the techniques of a theatre practitioner or a genre, in response to a stimulus set by EDUQAS. Accompanying this, they will be asked to produce a portfolio of supporting evidence about the process (750-900 words) as coursework and an evaluation of the final performance or design in exam conditions (1 hour 30 minutes).

Component 2: Performing from a Text (20% of qualification) Students will study two extracts from the same play text culminating in one performance to a visiting examiner using sections of text from both extracts (Between 5-14 minutes depending on group size).

Component 3: Interpreting Theatre (40% of qualification) Section A: Set Text, a series of questions on one set text from a choice of five: 1. The Tempest, William Shakespeare, 2. The Caucasian Chalk Circle, Bertolt Brecht, 3. Hard to Swallow, Mark Wheeler, 4. War Horse, Michael Morpurgo, adapted by Nick Stafford, 5. DNA, Dennis Kelly. **Section B: Live Theatre Review** One question, from a choice of two, requiring analysis and evaluation of a given aspect of a live theatre production seen during the course.

How can families contribute to success on this course?

- As well as traditional homework tasks, in drama students will have line learning, research and rehearsal tasks set to be completed outside of the classroom. You can support your child by running lines with them and allowing them to stay for group rehearsals after school.
- Monitor Satchel:One and TEAMS to ensure homework is handed in on time, and students speak to staff in good time if there are issues.
- Encourage your child to take an interest in live theatre. If possible take them to the theatre or to see cinema screenings of live productions.
- Reading theatre reviews regularly can be really beneficial for Section B of Component 3 as your child will see how professionals review acting and stage design. This can be from newspapers, magazines or the internet.

Resources for success:

- WJEC/EDUQAS GCSE Drama by Gary Nicholas, Illuminate Publishing (ISBN: 978-1-908682-88-8)
- The five component three set texts
 1. The Tempest William Shakespeare (Wordsworth: ISBN 978-1-85326-203-6)
 2. The Caucasian Chalk Circle Bertolt Brecht (Penguin Modern Classics: ISBN 978-0-141-18916-1)
 3. Hard to Swallow Mark Wheeler (dbda: ISBN 978-1-902843-08-7)
 4. War Horse Nick Stafford (Faber: ISBN 978-0-571-24015-9)
 5. DNA Dennis Kelly (Oberon: ISBN 978-1-84002-952-9).
- www.digitaltheatreplus.com The Performing Arts department subscribes to this service allowing students to watch performances that have been filmed live on stage.
- www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/custom-browse?docid=nationalTheatreCollection The National Theatre live performance library allowing students to access live performances for free until the summer. Students have all been given the schools username and password.
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zbckjxs> Useful resources and revision points for the subject

Specification Information:

- Eduqas
- GCSE 9-1 Drama C690QS