

This specification for GCSE (9–1) Drama gives students the opportunity to explore the subject from a range of perspectives by devising their own, original work; by bringing to life the work of a playwright; as theatre reviewers, developing their own thoughts on what makes drama and theatre successful; and as creative artists building and bringing a character to life through exploration and rehearsal.

TEACHER RESPONSIBLE FOR COURSES: Ms B. Vallis

Content

Students can choose to be assessed as a **performer or designer**, in the non-exam components. This means that students have the choice to complete the course as a performer, as designer or through a combination of both roles.

The designer option (lighting; sound; set; costume) has its own marking criteria and specification requirements, ensuring students are well supported in taking these options, and are credited for the individual skills needed for each discipline.

The qualification is made up of **three components**. There are two non-exam assessments (60% of them overall qualification) and one exam assessment (40% of the overall qualification). Theory and practical work will be integrated throughout the course and all texts studied should be explored practically.

Non Examination Assessment - 60% of the qualification

Component 1 - Devising Drama 60 marks

Students will create a devised performance in groups. They will be able to select a starting point from a range of stimuli provided by the exam board.

You can be a **performer or designer** in this component.

Performances will be between 5 and 15 minutes, depending on the size of the group. All performances will be supported by a **portfolio** which is evidence of the students' devising process and can be made up of a combination of writing, images, observation notes and artefacts. This can also be prepared and presented as a vlog or as filmed extracts instead of being written down.

You will be marked by your teachers for this component. The work is then moderated by the exam board.

40 marks: For the evidence in the portfolio

20 marks: For the final performance.

Component 2 - Text Performance 60 marks

Students will study a text chosen by the centre.

Students will take a part in two performances of two extracts from the text. They can work as a **performer or designer in this component.**

Performance lengths will vary according to the size of the group. In this unit students can work individually, or in a group of up to 6. The time range is between 2 and 15 minutes, depending on the size of the group.

Students must present at least one performance as part of a group. Students will be required to produce an accompanying concept document which outlines their intentions for the performance.

20 marks: Interpretation of the text and creating an intention for performance

40 marks: For the demonstration of the chosen theatrical skill in the final performances.

Examination Assessment - 40% of the qualification

The exam component will be assessed at the end of the qualification and will be **1 hour and 30 minutes in length**. Students will have to complete two compulsory sections.

Section A - 50 marks

Students will be asked about preparing and performing a text. They will draw on the experience of studying a **whole text** during the course from a list set by the exam board.

The questions will focus on the **process** of creating and developing a performance, working as a director, performer and designer, as well as the **performance** of a character from the text.

Section B - 30 marks

This section asks the students to review a performance they have seen on their course.

They will be primarily assessed on their ability to **analyse and evaluate**, but will also be marked on their accurate use of subject specific terminology.

There are four key assessment objectives for the qualification that assess candidates at different points of the creative process:

- When creating and rehearsing;
 - When reflecting on how meaning has been communicated on stage;
 - When demonstrating their theatrical skill in performance;
 - When evaluating their own work or the work of others.
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- **AO1:** Create and develop ideas to communicate meaning for theatrical performance (20%)
 - **AO3:** Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed (30%)
 - **AO2:** Apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance (30%)
 - **AO4:** Analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others (20%)