



CLAIRES COURT
SIXTH FORM

Curriculum Statement

Year 12 and 13 - Drama
2025 – 2026

Your place to *aim high*

Drama and Theatre

Why is Drama and Theatre a good subject choice?

Many employers now actively seek those who have studied the arts. Top talent management agency, The Curve Group, specialising in financial and business services, concurs: "Employees who studied an arts subject have developed more quickly in their roles from the start. They have discipline, confidence and can accept criticism".

What will I master through this course?

In studying Drama you have to make independent decisions all the way, and be self-critical. You have to be brave and accept criticism. Working in teams will make you into a good communicator. You have to pay great attention to detail, to perfect and redo. Putting on a play takes strong organisational skills. Studying Drama develops the broader dimensions of the human being – mind, body and soul. Through performance you can express the inexpressible and make sense of things that otherwise do not seem to.

You will engage with different play texts and you will demonstrate your practical skills as an actor or designer. You are expected to be committed to the experience of live theatre. This will lead to a life-long interest in theatre-going as well as making the two year course a memorable one. The theoretical and practical elements of A level Drama and Theatre make it both a challenging and a very rewarding subject. It is by no means a soft option. **This is the only A level in which teamwork is such a feature** and you really do need to enjoy working with others. For many students this is the most rewarding aspect of the course and after all, working with others is a life skill better acquired sooner than later!

What is A Level Drama and Theatre about?

The WJEC Eduqas A level in Drama and Theatre is an exciting and inspiring course. This highly practical specification provides the opportunity to work as either performers and/or designers on three different performances. The course provides a practical and challenging course of study which features:

- Exciting and inspiring set texts covering a range of social, historical and cultural contexts
- Three performance opportunities
- The opportunity to act or design
- A choice of practitioners or theatre companies to study
- A practical approach through practical exploration and theatre visits.

What background do I need?

A grade 7 or better in English GCSEs is a good foundation for A level Drama and Theatre. Opportunities for theatre and costume design in the practical component of the course might well be a real plus if you have done well in Art at GCSE, or Music Tech for sound design.

You will need passion, commitment and stamina to contribute positively to the group throughout the rehearsal period and to see a project through to the final performance. You will need an enthusiasm for reading plays and researching various aspects of theatre as well as for going to the theatre.

What sort of work is involved?

A level Drama and Theatre requires skills in two different areas: practical and theoretical. Not only do you need to enjoy reading, and be able to write essays, but you also need a commitment to live

theatre and a capacity to work collaboratively with your class-mates on the practical elements of the course.

Practical work accounts for 60% of A level Drama and Theatre, so this might not be the right A level subject for you if you are mostly interested in reading plays rather than performing in them. If your main interest is practical, do be aware of the importance of producing a portfolio in which you write in an evaluative and self-reflecting way about the practical work.

The course is a linear course which consists of three components:

- You will participate in the creation, development and performance of one reinterpretation of an extract from a text, using the working methods and techniques of either an influential theatre practitioner or a recognised theatre company (Component 1).
- You will create and develop a devised piece using the working methods and techniques of a second different influential theatre practitioner or recognised theatre company, and one extract from a text in a contrasting style to the devised performance (Component 2).
- You will explore two complete performance texts from different historical periods and one extract from a third contrasting text (Component 3).

How will I be assessed?

All assessments will take place in year 13. A level Drama and Theatre is assessed through a theory component and two practical ones. The theory paper accounts for 40% of the total award. It covers your knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre, and your analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers.

Component 1: Theatre workshop

Non-exam assessment

Internally assessed and externally moderated (20% of qualification). Completed, recorded and assessed during the first term of Year 13.

Component 2: Text in Action

Non-exam assessment

Externally assessed by a visiting examiner in March/April of Year 13 (40% of qualification).

Component 3: Text in performance

Written examination

Two and a half hour exam (40% of the qualification) in May/June of Year 13. This is an open book exam.

Where can it lead?

Logic gets you from A to B, creativity and imagination can take you anywhere! If you are aiming at drama school A level Drama and Theatre is incredibly useful, and it is good preparation for Drama at university, and for Creative Writing courses. Learners considering joint courses in English and Drama should certainly consider studying both these subjects at A level. It is a great complementary subject for Psychology as well.

More information can be found at www.educas.co.uk/qualifications/drama-and-theatre.

For further information please contact:

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