

KS4 Drama

Curriculum Overview

Curriculum Intent

In drama the skills, discipline and confidence students will learn will last a lifetime.

Drama is a unique, powerful subject that blends artistic practice with physical and mental activity. Drama has an affirmative impact on young people's education and offers opportunities for all young people to gain knowledge and skills in performance, creative and analytical skills. The topics studied within drama enable students to understand the world they live in, develop their own cultural capital as well as develop and raise their own aspirations and the overall culture of the school.

Drama cultivates a passion of lifelong learning and enjoyment as well as establishes key life skills along the way. These skills include soft skills such as public speaking, working under pressure and to a short deadline and group skills. It also includes performance skills such as acting skills, creating a role, understanding devising techniques and evaluating and analysing texts

Students learn a variety of different drama genres, from Shakespeare to slapstick and we align much of our curriculum with the English department to ensure the skills and knowledge are fully embedded.

How is Drama assessed at THA?	Cross Curricular Links	How this prepares students for their next stage of education/employment
<p>We use the exam board AQA for Drama GCSE at The Hastings Academy. The exam is broken down into 3 units:</p> <p>Unit1 – Understanding drama. Written paper 40% 1hr 45</p> <p>We study the set text of Blood Brothers by Willy Russell in which AQA will ask 4 essay style questions on the acting within the play. Students will study how to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music • Dance • English • History 	<p>Students who choose GCSE Drama are able to work confidently in a group and problem solve. They are also able to speak fluently and with confidence to people and address an audience. Drama give students the skills to be organised and empathise others. They can be reflective self and work of others.</p> <p>Drama is a valuable choice for any education of career stage.</p>



answer these questions and think of the acting pillars of face, body, voice and blocking and the reasons for their acting choices. Students will also have to write about a theatre visit as part of the exam paper.

- 80 marks
- Section A: multiple choice (4 marks)
- Section B: four questions on a given extract from the set play chosen (44 marks)
- Section C: one question (from a choice) on the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production (32 marks)

Unit 2 – Devising drama. Practical 40%

Students will plan, direct and devise their own performance inspired by a stimulus. This group piece will be followed by 3 pieces of written work – log books.

- Devising log (60 marks)
- Devised performance (20 marks)
- 80 marks in total

Unit 3 – Texts in practice. Practical 20%

Students will select 2 sections of a play of their choice and perform this to a visiting examiner. Groups can be between 2-6 actors. Teacher will guide students to suit their strengths.

- Performance of Extract 1 (20 marks) **and** Extract 2 (20 marks)
- 40 marks in total
- 20% of GCSE

Link: [Assessment materials and specification \(hyperlink\)](#)

Progress sessions:

Enrichment Opportunities

Students are able to take part in workshops and visiting artists. We also take as many trips to the theatre as possible.

Resources/Materials to Support Learning

AQA GCSE Drama
Theatre visits



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Revision Links:

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	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
	Topic: Scripted Exam	Topic: Scripted Exam	Topic: Examiner visit for Scripted exam	Topic: Theatre Visit Recap of Blood Brothers	Topic: Theatre Visit Recap of Blood Brothers	Topic: Examinations
Year 11	Key Knowledge: Culmination of all skills required and necessary for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a role • Text and performance analysis • Underpinned by all the secondary skills COMPONENT THREE OF EXAM	Key Knowledge: Culmination of all skills required and necessary for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a role • Text and performance analysis • Underpinned by all the secondary skills COMPONENT THREE OF EXAM	Key Knowledge: Culmination of all skills required and necessary for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a role • Text and performance analysis • Underpinned by all the secondary skills COMPONENT THREE OF EXAM	Key Knowledge: Text and Performance Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How this links to creating and a role, with a clear understanding of devising techniques. COMPONENT ONE OF EXAM	Key Knowledge: Text and Performance Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How this links to creating and a role, with a clear understanding of devising techniques. COMPONENT ONE OF EXAM.	Key Knowledge:
	Key Skills:	Key Skills:	Key Skills:	Key Skills:	Key Skills:	Key Skills:
	Assessment	Assessment	Assessment	Assessment	Assessment	Assessment

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6