

WHY TAKE GCSE DRAMA?

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But I don't want to be an actor so how can it help me?

Some people think that the only worthwhile reason to be studying Drama is to become an actor or director. That's NOT true.

Most students don't go onto be performers, they choose it because they enjoy it and because of the huge range of life skills you develop.

What people forget is that practical subjects like Drama allow you to develop hugely valuable skills which you will continue to use throughout your life, in and out of work.

Transferable skills learned in drama:

Team working

Verbal and written communication skills

Problem solving

Time management

Practical application of IT

Research skills

People management

Presentation skills

Motivation & commitment

The ability to work independently



Being Creative

Drama stimulates you to be constantly creative. Of course, nothing can actually teach creativity but it is a muscle that needs regular exercise and stretching. Drama will force you to regularly come up with exciting, functional and convincing ideas, to a deadline and this ability will stay with you.

Confidence

You will gain in confidence. This is a really important one because Drama gives you the opportunity to push yourself to perform. You will be able to grow in confidence, develop your performance skills and overcome the fear of making mistakes in a fun, creative and supportive environment.

Discipline

You will learn discipline. Once you've mastered the art of keeping a straight face throughout all of a ridiculously funny performance you're basically the master of discipline. This skill makes you more aware of your body language and more able to adapt your behaviour for various situations. It's not so much about acting as being aware of your body language and how to adapt to distracting, uncomfortable or sensitive situations.





Team work

No subject teaches you how to work well in a team quite like Drama. In Drama you are nearly always working with a group of people of varying sizes. You will work with people who work hard, disorganised people, bossy people and you may well be one of these characters yourself. Drama will allow you to develop your patience, ability to compromise and communication skills. You will need these skills in **EVERY** job you ever do!

Critical thinking

Analysing Drama productions and scripts allows you to develop your critical thinking skills. This is useful for almost every job and is great if you are planning on taking English Literature, Media Studies, Humanities and even Maths and Science at degree level. Also, it allows you to think more critically about the film, television and theatre that we all consume on a daily basis.

Improvising and problem solving

In Drama you will be asked to improvise on a number of occasions. This allows you to think on your feet, develop your initiative and will encourage you to be more proactive. It may not feel like it at the time but this will hold you in good stead when it comes to taking initiative and adapting in your personal life and in the workplace.



What does the GCSE involve?

- Studying Plays
- Exploring theatre practitioners
- Developing performance skills
- Viewing live theatre
- Creating own performance work
- Understanding theatre styles, types, stages and roles and responsibilities within the theatre world

What students say:

'I find drama very enjoyable, there are many skills we learn that can be used in life and it has made me into a more confident person'

'GCSE Drama has made me a much more confident person'

'The department is my favourite place to be, welcoming, caring and always busy...'

What is the Exam Content?



C1 Written Paper based on study of a Set Text (Blood Brothers), viewing Live Theatre and understanding theatre roles



C2 - Devised Drama Performance
Creating a performance from a starting point (accompanied by a written assessment)



C3 - Scripted Performance
2 Performances of extracts from a play



Drama can lead to careers such as:

Actor

Barrister

Arts Administrator

Broadcast Journalist

Choreographer

Cinematographer

Circus performer

Copywriter

Costume designer

Dancer

DJ

Fine artist

Musician

Newspaper journalist

Teacher

Proofreader

Set designer

Stage manager

TV presenter

Theatre producer

TV producer

Wedding planner

Writer

Youth worker



Who to contact



Mrs Stimson currently leads GCSE Drama (as well as her role as Head of Upper School)



You can contact her through her school email if you have further questions about the course



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WATCH THIS VIDEO:

[Drama](#)

