



Introduction:

There are four periods devoted to Drama at IGCSE level in both years.

Content:

The two periods during school hours will concentrate on group devised and solo repertoire and theory work. Rehearsals will also take place when the scripts have been prepared. Filming will take place for self-assessment and finally if the outcome is successful, for IGCSE assessment.

The two periods after school will concentrate on group repertoire, and in the second and third terms, writing scripts from topics supplied from the examination IGCSE board.

These scripts might also be performed. Theory questions on the repertoire extract and the scripts based on the topics will be asked in preparation for the written examination. Discussion in writing and orally on the pre-released repertoire material will also begin in the second term. Students will be given roughly equal parts for fair assessment. Performances before small audiences will take place if the quality is high. Filming of successful pieces must also take place for IGCSE assessment. Filming is usually begun towards the end of the second term.

Students of both Year 10 and 11 will be filmed. In Year 10, the resulting film will be kept as a 'back-up' in case filming of repertoire is not successful in Year 11.

All students should be discussing the development of their part, scene design, stylistic, sound and lighting effects, costume and make-up when not rehearsing. This is also part of the practical assessment. Notice will be taken to ensure that all students take part in discussions. This is part of the overall assessment at IGCSE.

The stages:

- **Stage 1**
Discussion of dramatic possibilities:
Humour
Conflict
Dynamics
- **Stage 2**
Improvisations

- **Stage 3**
Script Writing (group and solo devised) incl: Basic stage directions, set, movements, adverbials and pauses
- **Stage 4**
Rehearsals
Use of basic props and furniture
- **Stage 5**
Discussion of:
Costume
Make-up
Scenery
Lighting
Music
Other sound effects
Visual effects
- **Stage 6**
Production work:
Making of costumes
Painting
Construction of stage area:
Use of flats
Placement of furniture and props
Other structural work
Technical for sound and visual effects (incl. film footage /photograph)
Positioning of lights
- **Stage 7**
Performance

Skills:

The basic skills covered within the stages referred to above.

- **Speech:**
volume/projection
pace
clarity
intonation
accent and dialect
moments of acting without speech (incl mime)

- **Characterisation/interaction**

Attitude/feeling/emotion (change and development) are shown through speech (see above) and:
basic stage movements
facial expressions
gesture
spatial awareness
physicality

- **Stylistic effects (in stages 2 to 7)**

pinteresque, theatre of the absurd, formal/stylised, naturalism v realism, symbolism, total theatre, monologue/soliloquy, chorus, physical drama, documentary drama incl.: documentary, speeches, song and dance, choreograph, video and film, alienation effect, stage form: studio theatre, proscenium arch, thrust, well/round/semi-round, cat-walk

Homework:

There are two homework tasks set per week.

Assessment:

Students receive a grade for each significant piece of work. Staff write targets for the pupils as a standard part of marking. The Year 10 examination at Christmas assesses the first term's work. The Summer examination in Year 10 assesses the year's work as a whole. Mock IGCSE exams take place in the Spring Term of Year 11, and the final externally examined written paper is taken in May/June of Year 11. The assessment of the practical element is outlined in the "Content" section above.

Digital usage in this subject:

Students use Google Education as a multifaceted digital resource. In particular, they write scripts for their group devised pieces using shared google docs. They also upload work and check notices on google classroom, and take short quizzes using google forms. Evaluative presentations on theatre productions are created and delivered using Keynote.

On YouTube, students watch short performances, TED talks on design elements and monologues to inspire their own vocal and physical choices as actors. Streamed versions of theatre performances may be accessed from the National Theatre website and others (<https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/ntathome>).

Students may also film each other using the video functions of their iPads, in order to assess and improve their performance choices.

Average time spent each homework:

30 per piece

Resources and Materials:

All work will be reinforced during the three terms with an IGCSE text book: The text book is little used for formal teaching but students will be expected to be aware of the material covered in the chapters of the text book. The name of the text is: The Complete GCSE Drama Course.

The full IGCSE syllabus is available on the internet and is shown to students.