

Eduqas GCSE Drama
Curriculum Overview – Unit Breakdown

Component 1: Devising Theatre	
<p>The purpose of this unit is to develop students' ability to create original theatre from a given stimulus, while deepening their understanding of how drama communicates meaning. Students will explore a range of theatrical styles and techniques through practical workshops before working in groups to devise a performance. Alongside the performance, students will document their process, justifying creative decisions and evaluating their work.</p>	<p>During this unit, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explore a range of stimuli to inspire original ideas and shape a theatrical response.• Experiment with a variety of performance styles, including both naturalistic and non-naturalistic approaches.• Learn how to structure a devised performance with clear narrative, themes, and intended impact.• Apply rehearsal strategies to refine and develop their performance work.• Create and perform a devised performance in a group, lasting 5–16 minutes depending on group size.• Complete a devising portfolio that explores their creative process, key decisions, and evaluation of their final performance.
Component 2: Performing from a Text	
<p>This unit focuses on students developing their performance skills through the rehearsal and realisation of two short extracts from a published play. Students will deepen their understanding of character, context, and staging while developing vocal and physical skills to suit the demands of scripted material. Performances are assessed by a visiting examiner.</p>	<p>During this unit, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read and explore a published play text, analysing characters and dramatic context.• Select and rehearse two contrasting extracts, with consideration for audience impact and interpretive choices.• Develop characterisation through vocal tone, physicality, and staging.• Rehearse with a focus on timing, interaction, and building dramatic tension.• Reflect on their performance work to identify strengths and areas for development throughout the rehearsal process.• Perform both extracts to an external examiner, demonstrating technical and interpretive skill.

Component 3: Interpreting Theatre

The purpose of this unit is to prepare students for the written examination by building their ability to analyse a play text and evaluate live theatre. Students will study one set text in detail, considering how it might be performed and realised in production. They will also watch and analyse a piece of live or digital theatre, developing their ability to write critically about performance and design choices.

During this unit, students will:

- Study a full play text (Noughts and Crosses) from the perspective of an actor, director, and designer.
- Explore how key scenes can be brought to life through performance, staging, lighting, sound, costume, and set design.
- Watch a live or recorded theatre production and learn how to evaluate acting and technical elements.
- Practise writing structured exam responses using key drama vocabulary and analysis.
- Prepare for the written exam by developing timed essay-writing skills and familiarity with exam-style questions.
- Sit a 1 hour 30-minute exam that includes one section on the set text and one on live theatre evaluation.