



Wigston Academy

Drama GCSE 2024 - 2026



Examination Board

AQA

What will I be studying?

Component 1 – Understanding Drama (40% of GCSE)

You will learn about drama and theatre. You will study and practically explore a set play. You will also visit the theatre to evaluate live performances. You will learn about roles within the theatre.

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 1 hour and 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 40% of GCSE

Questions

- Section A: multiple choice (4 marks) on your understanding of how theatre is created
- Section B: four questions on a given extract from Blood Brothers (44 marks)
- Section C: one question (from a choice) on the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production (32 marks)

Component 2 – Devising Drama (40% of GCSE)

You will work in a group to research, create and perform your own drama to be performed before an audience. Following the performance, you will analyse and evaluate your work.

How it's assessed

- Devising log (60 marks)
- Devised performance (20 marks)
- 80 marks in total
- 40% of GCSE

This component is marked by teachers and moderated externally by AQA.

Component 3 – Texts in Practice (20% of GCSE)

You will work in a group to perform two extracts from one play, taking a script form page to stage. You can contribute as an actor or as a puppet, set, sound, or costume and makeup designer.

How it's assessed

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

This component is marked by AQA.

How will I be studying?

This course will be taught in a group with a teacher. You will be expected to make an active contribution to whatever you are working on, whether it be a group-based or solo based piece of work: assignments will include both written and practical work. Students will be expected to participate in class discussions, trips to the theatre and practical workshops. Good Drama and Theatre students find the course challenging because it involves them in something that is both creative and academically rigorous.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Understanding Drama (40% of qualification) This is a 1hr and 45 minute written examination. You will sit this at the end of year 11.

Component 2 – Devising Drama (40% of qualification) an internally assessed and externally moderated performance. Devised performance (10%) accompanied by written devising log (30%). This NEA will take place at the end of year 10 and you will complete the log book at the start of year 11.

Component 3: Text in Practice (20% of Qualification) Two practical performance pieces assessed by an external examiner. This NEA will take place in in March of year 11.

Where Next?

This course ensures continuity for students progressing from GCSE Drama to AS and A-level Drama and Theatre, or Btec level 3 in Performing Arts. A Level Drama & Theatre Studies can be studied at Wigston College.

During the GCSE course students learn to collaborate with others, think analytically and evaluate effectively. They gain the confidence to pursue their own ideas, reflect and refine their efforts. Whatever the future holds, students of GCSE Drama emerge with a toolkit of transferable skills, applicable both in further studies and in the workplace. These skills are sought after and essential in the modern work place.