

Exam Board & Course title: AQA Drama**Qualification: GCSE****Qan Code: 601/8575/2****Spec Code: 8261****Level of course:**

Most suited for students achieving a 4 and above in Drama.

Assessment Methods:

The course is split into:

1. 40% Understanding Drama- This is a written exam lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes. Students will answer a short multiple-choice question and then write about any given scene from a play that is studied over two years. The play is taught mostly through **practical lessons**. The final part is a theatre review of one performance of **live theatre, so we get to go and see a show**.
2. 40% Devising Drama- This is mostly marked on **practical performance** of a play that students create in groups. This component is completed in Year 10. A drama journal is also assessed.
3. 20% Texts in Practice. This is a **practical performance** of 2 extracts from one play. This is **scripted performance**. This can be any play.

Course Content

The course is **practical**. It allows students to study two plays, one as a complete text and two extracts from the other. The plays are studied practically but a set text is examined through the written exam. Students also get to devise and create their own play. A journal which reflects, and records progress and skills development will be an ongoing part of the course. Students develop their performance work in most lessons and over the two-year course, having lots of opportunities to perform.

Students are also given the opportunity to go to the theatre and attend drama workshops. Throughout the course students will also develop an understanding of staging, set design, make up and costume design, and practise these skills in lessons. They can also choose design options for practical exams instead of acting.

Skills you need:

- You need to be able to work and contribute to **group work**.
- You need to have an interest in **creating, performing and reflecting** on your own work and those of others. You need to be able to **enjoy performing** and understanding plays.
- You need to be able to **write about the development of your own work and that of others**.
- You need to have an **interest in Theatre and enjoy watching plays**.

Skills you will acquire:

- Encourage you to develop **creatively and imaginatively**.
- Develop your **communication skills and self-confidence**.
- Develop **your performance skills**.
- Be able to reflect on your own work and that of others.
- Develop your **social and teamwork skills**.
- Develop the language and insight of Theatre critiques.

Progression routes and linked careers:

Completing the Drama course with a good pass will demonstrate that you are an **analytical, confident and creative communicator**.

Drama students are favoured by universities as it is a course that allows students to **develop and maintain exceptional communication and social skills**. These skills are celebrated and enable you to stand out from the crowd when you are interviewing for courses which require **public contact and interaction** (Doctors, Teachers, and Lawyers).

A Drama GCSE is an essential choice for anyone who wants to work in the Arts and Entertainment, whether that be in Theatre, Television production or Advertising. However, It is also an excellent choice for anyone who wants to work in an environment where there is plenty of **social interaction**.

A qualification in Drama shows colleges and employers that you can **communicate and work with others**. Possible career opportunities or links to specific professions are: Lawyer (Presenting in court), Social Work or Psychology, Events Manager, Teacher, Actor, Presenter or Marketing.

The Drama GCSE qualification provides a strong and appropriate foundation for further progression to Drama courses, including A-level Drama and Theatre Studies, and enhanced vocational and career pathways.

Other information:

The Drama GCSE is an enjoyable course in which your course tutors will strive to **play to your strengths**.

It will encourage you to explore and actively engage in a wide range of creative and stimulating activities to develop as **effective and independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds**.

Any questions see: Ms Mian and Ms Fyfe: amian@levenshulmehigh.co.uk and cfyfe@levenshulmehigh.co.uk