



KS4 GCSE DRAMA MY LEARNING JOURNEY

INTRODUCTION TO DRAMA



Firstly in GCSE Drama, I will begin exploring what it means to be a performer, designer, and theatre-maker. I will learn new skills in acting, character development, script work, devising, and exploring different theatrical styles. Throughout the year, I will study live theatre, analyse performance choices, and learn how to respond like a drama student using the AQA framework. I will work both independently and in groups, building confidence as I create, rehearse, and perform. This learning journey will help me understand how theatre communicates meaning and prepares me for the demands of the GCSE course in Year 11.

LIVE THEATRE EVALUATION



Next, I will learn how to evaluate live theatre, an important part of the AQA Drama exam. I will watch a recorded or live performance and make notes on how actors use voice, movement, facial expression, and interaction to create meaning. I will also look at design elements such as lighting, sound, costume, and set, and think about how they support the mood, themes, and storytelling.

I will practise writing clear, detailed responses using AQA drama terminology, explaining what I saw, why it was effective, and how it made the audience react. This will help me build the skills I need to write a strong live theatre evaluation in my written exam.

BLOOD BROTHERS



Next, I will study the play Blood Brothers as part of the AQA Drama course. I will learn about the story, characters, themes, and social context so I can understand the play in depth. I will explore how the playwright creates meaning and how different scenes could be staged through voice, movement, and design. I will also practise analysing key moments from the play, making notes on character intentions, relationships, and atmosphere. This will help me prepare for the written exam, where I will need to explain how I would perform or design sections of the play using correct AQA drama terminology.

DEVISING



Next, I will work in a group to create an original performance based on a chosen stimulus, exploring ideas through improvisation, brainstorming, and practical workshops. I will make decisions about character, movement, voice, and structure, experimenting with different ways to communicate meaning and engage the audience. I will also record my process, ideas, and decisions in a devising log, reflecting on what works well and what I can improve. This will help me show creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving, and demonstrate how I can develop ideas into a polished and confident finished performance.

BLOOD BROTHERS PERFORMANCE



The next stage of my learning journey is to focus on performing scenes from Blood Brothers. I will choose key sections of the play and explore how to bring the characters to life through voice, movement, gesture, and facial expression. I will experiment with different ways to show relationships, emotions, and tension on stage.

I will rehearse in a group, refining my performance skills and using feedback to improve. Throughout this process, I will link my decisions to the play's themes and context, helping me develop a clear, confident performance that meets the AQA assessment requirements.

EXAM TECHNIQUES



Finally, I will focus on exam techniques to help me succeed in the written Drama exam. I will practise answering different types of questions, such as analysing a play text, evaluating live theatre, and explaining performance choices. I will learn how to use correct AQA drama terminology, structure my answers clearly, and give detailed examples to support my points. This will help me feel confident in planning and writing my answers under timed conditions and ensure I can show my knowledge and understanding of Drama effectively.