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## Drama

The Drama Department at Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre prides itself on enabling students of all abilities to succeed. Drama is taught as a specialist subject in Years 7, 8 and 9 with all students having two lessons a fortnight.

Drama lessons are always taught in mixed ability groups, including the five lessons a fortnight to deliver the GCSE Drama curriculum.

For those in our Sixth Form we offer the AQA Drama and Theatre Studies course at both AS and A2.

We believe Drama develops the confidence and skills of all students by engaging them in imaginative, creative and expressive work.

### Key Stage 3

The focus of Drama at Key Stage 3 is to build key drama skills and an awareness of drama and theatre forms and terminology. Students study a variety of plays, stimuli, genres and techniques in order to offer ways to interpret the dramatic arts and participate in them. Students are assessed using the Arts Council Levels for Drama.

### Key Stage 4

In years 10 and 11 students can opt for the AQA Drama course. It is an exciting, creative and challenging course and has been designed to help candidates meet those challenges. There is a balance between controlled assessment tasks (60%) and a written examination (40%). Students are required to present practical work for two controlled assessment options, each with a weighting of 30% (60 marks each). In the summer of Year 11 students sit a final written examination in which they write about their own and others performance work.

### Key Stage 5

In years 12 and 13 students can opt for the AQA Drama and Theatre Studies course. The course allows students to pursue their interests and develop their skills in a range of practical drama elements including acting and directing. However, the requirements of the specification, with its 60% written paper weighting, also enable pupils to gain an entry qualification for courses in higher education, whether in the area of drama and theatre studies or in a host of other subjects. At AS, students perform an extract from any play selected to illustrate their understanding of an influential director, designer, theatre company or other practitioner. At A2, students devise drama on any topic to be performed in a theatrical style of their choice. The written examinations in both year 12 and year 13 are taken during the summer examination season.

### Extra-Curricular Opportunities

The Drama Department encourages students to have a genuine interest in the theatre with a range of visits throughout the year. Theatre trips range from local trips to The Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham to watching musicals in the West End. The Department also runs an annual trip to Europe alternating between Greece and Italy. The main school production is open to all students.

If you love this subject, you will find numerous opportunities to enjoy drama at Newent!



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Should you like to receive any additional information on this subject please contact Mrs M Hood, Head of Department via email [admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk).