

Drama National 4 and 5

Why take this course?

Drama gives you the opportunity to use your imagination and express yourself in a creative and practical way. It helps you to develop important skills such as problem solving, communication, planning and creative thinking. It is particularly suitable for those who love being creative, getting their ideas across in a dramatic way and communicating their ideas with others.

To succeed in this course, you need...

Imagination and a willingness and genuine interest in creating and performing drama. Participation in Drama at S3 would be beneficial but not essential.

Course structure and Content

Drama is a practical, hands-on subject where you will explore and develop a range of drama skills and approaches to communicating thoughts and ideas to an audience. You will develop a range of acting skills in relation to portraying characters. You will also develop a knowledge and understanding of social and cultural influences on drama, as well as learn how to evaluate your own progress and that of others. The course comprises **two** areas of study.

Drama Skills:

- explore and develop a range of drama skills and ways of communicating thoughts and ideas to an audience
- develop a range of skills as an actor
- learn how to respond to stimuli, including text
- develop your understanding of how to portray character
- develop your knowledge and understanding of form, structure, genre and style when creating and presenting drama
- extend your understanding of social and cultural influences on drama
- reflect on your own progress and that of others.

Drama Production Skills:

- develop a range of production skills and use these skills to enhance drama when presenting
- use problem solving skills in order to generate ideas for presenting drama.

Course Assessment

The course assessment has **two** components:

- Component 1: question paper – worth 40%
- Component 2: performance – worth 60%

The question paper will be set and marked by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA).

For the performance component, you will present an extract from a published play. This will be assessed by an SQA visiting examiner.

Where might this course take me?

The skills that you develop in Drama are useful in many different careers, including: communications and media, theatre, film, TV, radio, costume design, production, writing and teaching. You can go on to study Higher Drama.