



Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

Educating Women of the Future

Drama Key Stage 4 Curriculum

	Topic/Big Question	Focus
Year 10	Why is violence glamorised in modern entertainment?	How and why is 'violence and intimidation' used in modern entertainment? A series of workshops that explores the social issues surrounding violence and how it can be portrayed on stage. We look at the techniques of building tension and the importance of atmosphere within a piece of drama.
	How do theatre makers work together to achieve performance objectives?	Students study the play 'Blood Brothers' - this exploration occurs in the same way we look at the set text for the written exam (Find Me). Students will practically explore key scenes from a range of viewpoints; as a director, a performer and as a designer. Written exam technique is also introduced.
	Where do modern drama techniques come from?	A series of workshops that act as an introduction to a range of influential theatre practitioners and their performance styles/techniques. Those studied include, but are not limited to; Brecht, Stanislavski, Frantic Assembly, Splendid Theatre Company
	What captures the attention of a modern audience?	Devising Drama - 30% of GCSE NEA Students are placed into groups and asked to create an original piece of Drama for an examined performance. They are given a booklet of 10 stimuli, produced by the exam board OCR and have to choose 1 as a starting point for their piece. Students will research and develop scenes based on their chosen stimulus eventually agreeing on a shared vision for their performance with clear aims and objectives.
		Students continue work on developing their examination performance - these are normally performed towards the end of this half term.
	How do you document the creative process of devising drama?	Students are asked to produce a portfolio that outlines the process of devising their piece of drama. The 3 sections of the portfolio to be covered are; Research and Initial Ideas, The Development Process and Evaluation of Final Performance.
	What makes a good piece of theatre?	Students learn the skill of reviewing live theatre. A trip normally takes place this half term following which students will analyse creative choices made by a range of theatre makers and evaluate their impact on them as a member of the audience. This covers the requirements of section B of the written exam.

	Topic/Big Question	Focus
Year 11	Have mental health services improved over the past few decades?	Set text: Find Me. Students study the set text 'Find Me'. This is initially explored in a practical way ensuring students analyse key scenes from a range of viewpoints. They must create performance ideas for each scene; thinking as a performer, a director and a designer. Written exam technique is also refined.
		Continue the exploration of Find Me.
	How do you successfully take a play from page to stage?	Presenting and performing texts: Students are placed into groups and given a playtext. They will explore two sections from a play in a practical way. Students then perform both sections to an examiner from OCR. Students will utilise performance skills taught in the Yr 10 Devising Unit.
		Presenting and Performing text will be examined by a visiting examiner.
		Preparing for written exam 1: Revision of a set text, revision of a play review The Woman in Black.