



24th September 2026

Dear Parents/ Carer

GCSE Drama – NEA (Non Examined Assessment) Expectations

The Devising Component is a **student-led project**, designed to assess students' ability to create, develop and perform original theatre work collaboratively. As stated in the specification, teachers will provide guidance, feedback and suggestions throughout the process, but students are expected to take responsibility for the planning, development and rehearsal of their work.

To support students in achieving their best, the following expectations apply:

- Rehearsals held after school must be **arranged in advance with the classroom teacher** and will take place in a structured environment.
- Students **may not rehearse on school premises without a member of staff present**, as a staff member must be available as the designated emergency contact.
- Students are expected to manage their rehearsal schedule effectively. As a guide, students may rehearse **for up to two hours per week outside of lesson time**, unless alternative arrangements have been agreed with the classroom teacher.
- Students rehearsing independently away from school should ensure that all group members contribute equally and use their time productively.
- As this is a student-led component, responsibility for attendance, preparation, learning lines, developing ideas and meeting deadlines rests primarily with the students.

The most successful devising projects are those where students demonstrate independence, commitment and effective collaboration throughout the process. We encourage students to communicate regularly with their teacher and group members to ensure rehearsals are purposeful and productive.

Additionally, please note that the bullet points will also apply to the 'Performing Text' component that is completed in year 11.

Thank you for your support in helping students make the most of these important GCSE Drama components.

Yours Faithfully,

Mrs Wittering - Subject Leader

Mr Weston – Subject Teacher