

Supporting you every step of the way



Paul Webster
Drama, Theatre Studies and Performing Arts Subject Advisor

Subject support

If you have any questions, get in touch with our Subject Advisor, Paul Webster. You can sign up via our website to receive emails from Paul and be kept up-to-date about training events, news and more.

Teaching and Learning support

We'll have a programme of teaching and learning support to help you implement the new specifications, particularly with new and unfamiliar content and skills. We also aim for our qualifications to be supported by high-quality resources produced by a range of publishers, including Pearson, and we'll be working with publishers who are looking towards getting their resources endorsed.

Launch events

Online or face-to-face, our free launch events will help you learn more about the new specifications, and the support we're offering to help you. They're great opportunities to speak to someone from our Drama team, as well as catch up with other colleagues. Sign up on our website at www.edexcel.com/training



Just a note: at the time of writing (June 2015), all information here is subject to Ofqual accreditation.

Find out more

For queries, information and support, we're here to help.

Call us on: **0844 372 2191**

Email us: TeachingPerformingArts@pearson.com

Follow us on Twitter: [@PearsonPerfArts](https://twitter.com/PearsonPerfArts)

Visit us online: www.edexcel.com/gcsedrama2016

www.edexcel.com/aleveldrama2016

GCSE Drama and A level Drama & Theatre

Inspiring creativity and confidence

Discover our new qualifications for 2016



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Inspiring creativity and confidence

Our ambition is to develop **GCSE Drama and AS and A level Drama and Theatre** qualifications for 2016 that encourage creativity, focusing on practical work and developing skills that will support progression to further study of drama and a wide range of other subjects.

Working with you

We want to make sure our new GCSE Drama and AS and A level Drama and Theatre specifications are shaped by you, for your students, to help them achieve their best. That's why we've been working with practising teachers, subject associations and higher education to design our brand new qualifications. We'll be submitting our specifications to Ofqual over the summer at which time we'll put the draft specifications and sample assessment materials online.



Our new qualifications

A practical focus is at the heart

Set texts will require students to articulate how they would perform in certain roles, and design for certain scenes, putting practical work at the heart of each specification.

Engaging Set Texts

Our carefully selected Set Texts will inspire teachers and students and avoid the most popular performance texts. You get to choose performance texts that best suit your students, their ability to access the work, their interests and their skills.

Clear and straightforward

Question papers will be accessible for students and the mark schemes will make the required standard clear.

Supports progression

With similar approaches to assessment at GCSE and A level, students will have a coherent experience of drama should they choose to progress from Edexcel GCSE Drama to Edexcel AS or A level Drama and Theatre.

Develops transferable skills

Students will develop a multitude of skills, including collaboration, communication and an understanding of how to amend and refine work in order to make a smooth transition to the next level of study.

Summary of the changes

GCSE Drama and AS and A level Drama and Theatre will be changing from September 2016 for all Awarding Bodies.

GCSE Drama

- Assessed through a combination of a 40% written exam and 60% Non-Examined Assessment (NEA).
- Students to study one complete and substantial performance text and two key extracts from a second contrasting performance text. The texts must be studied to gain a practical understanding of drama.
- Students to participate in a minimum of two performances, one devised and one from a performance text which has been studied as part of the course.

AS and A level Drama and Theatre

- AS and A level in Drama and Theatre will be assessed through a combination of a 40% written exam and 60% Non-Examined Assessment (NEA).
- AS will be a separate, linear qualification; the content of the AS is a subset of the A level so you can co-teach the qualifications.
- Specifications require students to demonstrate a practical understanding of:
 - AS** – a minimum of one complete and substantial performance text and a minimum of two key extracts from two different texts, placed in the context of the whole text.
 - A level** – a minimum of two complete and substantial performance texts and at least three key extracts from three different texts placed in the context of the whole text.
- Students must study the work and methodologies of one influential theatre practitioner (individual or companies) at **AS** and two theatre practitioners at **A level**.
- Specifications in drama and theatre require students to participate in:
 - AS** – a minimum of one performance from a text studied during the course
 - A level** – a minimum of two performances, one devised and one from a performance text studied during the course.