



September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As your children embark upon their final year of GCSE Drama, I felt it may be helpful for you and them to have some key dates for examinations and coursework and some resources/ study books which are available and highly recommended.

Students in GCSE Drama are currently starting to explore **Component 2 - Devising Drama**. Between now and December students will work in groups to create their own piece of theatre. On the **10**th **and 11**th **of December** students will perform these pieces of work for final assessment and the following Friday, **19**th **of December**, the written coursework for this component will be due. This will mean that by the Christmas holidays 40% of their GCSE will be completed.

Following the Christmas break we will start **Component 3 - Texts in Practice**. Students will rehearse and perform 2 extracts from a play. They will work in pairs and / or small groups. This is an externally marked performance, and **we will have a visiting examiner in school between mid-March and the start of the Easter break (Date TBC).** This will be a further 20% of the course completed.

The final written exam will be timetabled in and take place during the May / June exam season along with the students' other written examinations.

As the course is heavily practical based and students are very much reliant on each other it is imperative that attendance is excellent and that where possible students attend all lessons and rehearsals.

Recommended study guides

My top recommendations would be Blood Brothers Play Guide for AQA GCSE Drama written by Annie Fox closely followed by AQA Approved GCSE Drama (revised edition) also written by Annie Fox. These study guides can be purchased in most good bookstores and on Amazon, however, they are quite expensive to buy new and there are many copies available for approximately £2 each on Vinted. I have attached copies of what the books look like.

Students would also benefit from having their own copy of the play Blood Brothers, again pictured below.

Rossett School Green Lane, Harrogate HG2 9JP

☑ 01423 564444 ☑ office@rs.rklt.co.uk 🚹 Rossettschool www.rossettschool.co.uk

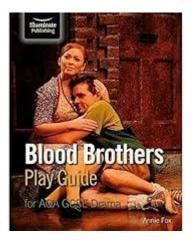
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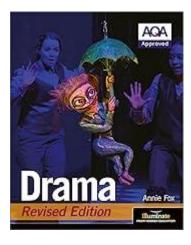


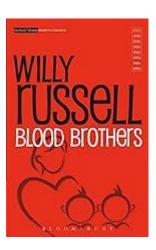
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If you have any questions regarding anything in this letter or your child's GCSE course, please don't hesitate to get in touch so that we can support your children together to get the best possible outcomes.

Yours sincerely,

Amanda McLurg

Subject Leader of Drama

Rossett School Green Lane, Harrogate HG2 9JP

2 01423 564444 ☐ office@rs.rklt.co.uk ☐ Rossettschool www.rossettschool.co.uk
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