

11th February 2019

Dear Parent / Carer,

Your child is currently preparing for their GCSE drama practical examination. This will be assessed by a visiting examiner with the mark contributing to 30% of their overall grade for the course. As is the case for all terminal examinations, it is important that they are best prepared and feeling as confident as possible to ensure they achieve their best. To support them in this, I would like to make you aware of the following opportunities and deadlines which should support them in planning for the next couple of weeks.

The assessment will take place over 2 days on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th of February. They will be required to be absent from lessons with their group or partner for 2 to 3 hours on one of those days. They will be allocated a slot for which they will form an audience for other students and perform their 2 extracts.

They will be required to attend a dress rehearsal after school on either Tuesday 26th or Wednesday 27th dependent on when their assessment is taking place. Where students have specific needs, where possible, I will arrange for them to hold their dress rehearsal during lesson time in negotiation with other subject areas. This will likely be if your child has access arrangements or is entitled to Pupil Premium. It is important that they make arrangements to attend these rehearsals. During the half term break, I will be opening the drama studio from 10am until 4pm on Monday 18th February so as students can come in and rehearse. I would encourage that they arrange this as part of their revision planning for that week. They should plan with their group or partner to spend 2 hours on this where possible. If they have other commitments, the drama studio is available to use at lunchtimes every day should they feel they need to use this time.

They have also been completing a written task which contributes to this assessment. This needs to be sent to the examiner on Monday 18th February in advance of his visit. I would like these completed and handed in to me before the half term break.

I will provide all students with a schedule and allocate their examination time / date during lessons this week. These dates and times are summarised below.

Friday 15th February - all pro-formas to be handed in / emailed to me.

Monday 18th February - 10am - 4pm. Drama studio available.

Tuesday 26th February - 3:30 - 6pm. Day 1 dress rehearsal.

Wednesday 27th - Day 1 Exam - all day (am or pm slot allocated)

Wednesday 28th February - 3:30 - 6pm. Day 2 dress rehearsal.

Thursday 28th - Day 2 Exam - all day (am or pm slot allocated).

If you have any questions about this process, or on how you may want to best support your child in this assessment, please feel free to get in touch.

Best wishes,

Tom Wise
Head of Performing Arts and PE