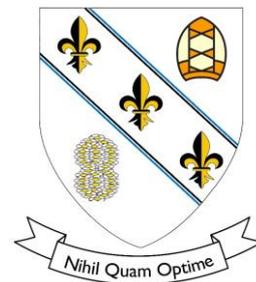


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25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

The changes to GCSE Drama were finally published last week and I have emailed the details to your son/daughter and put the details on ClassCharts. Just in case the information hasn't reached you, I thought I would write to you.

Before lockdown and for four lessons since returning to College and before the mock exams began, your son/daughter was working on his/her Component 1 Devised Performance piece in groups and had begun the 2000 word evaluative Portfolio, worth 40% of the total marks. The exam board have now given pupils the option to finish this as a group or to abandon the group approach and create a monologue or duologue instead. The writing of the portfolio is unchanged. We have a Performance Day booked for 19<sup>th</sup> October, where all final outcomes will be filmed. I will be advising most groups to prepare a monologue option (which can slot into the group piece anyway if the group are close to completion) as it can be rehearsed and performed remotely should the need arise. The Portfolios (which are partially complete already) will be finished and submitted to me after October half term and will reflect on the choices, intentions, significant moments, techniques used and outcomes of the work.

Component 2 (20%) has been reduced from two to one scripted performance, either a monologue or a duologue, which can also be remotely performed and filmed if necessary.

The final written exam (worth 40%) is unchanged, although pupils can write about a streamed or recorded live performance. I am advising that pupils stick with 'Hefted' as their exam play. Each pupil can take in 500 words of notes, which must be checked by me first – creating these is currently a Home Learning task.

To prepare the performance pieces, your son/daughter will need to continue to rehearse out of College and at lunchtimes – there is simply not enough time in lessons! I will be delighted to help pupils at lunchtimes. I thank you for your positivity and goodwill in supporting the process of line-learning and building confident and believable performances.

I hope this information is helpful. It has been great to be teaching our young people again and I really hope that we can complete Year 11 in the usual way. These changes give us peace of mind because the exam board is reducing content and workload. I'm optimistic that Year 11 will rise to the challenge!

Yours faithfully

Sara Feasey  
Head of Expressive Arts