

GCSE Drama and GCE AS / A Level Drama and Theatre

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Welcome to the January 2026 Drama newsletter. All assessment deadlines and summer examination dates can be found in the key dates documents under Support for Teachers on our webpages: [GCSE](#) and [AS/A Level](#).

WJEC GCSE Drama Updates

WJEC GCSE Drama – New Specification (For first assessment in Summer 2027)

Centres are reminded that the **new** [WJEC GCSE Drama specification](#) is now available for first teaching in September 2025 and first assessment in summer 2027. An accompanying set of SAMs are also available on the [WJEC GCSE Drama – teaching from 2025](#) website.

WJEC GCSE Drama – Legacy Specification

The information that follows concerns the WJEC GCSE legacy specification, for final assessment in summer 2026.

WJEC GCSE Drama Unit 1: Devising Theatre – Upload Deadlines

Centres are reminded of the importance of meeting upload deadlines for WJEC GCSE Unit 1 Devising Theatre. Please ensure that all marks are inputted into IAMIS (Internal Assessment Mark Input System) through [Portal](#), at least one week before the deadline, thus ensuring sample requests are created with sufficient time to upload work by the deadline.

Please also note that submission of work for WJEC GCSE Unit 1 Devising Theatre will also be via IAMIS. There is a Drama guide to support centres with the upload which can be found on the [WJEC GCSE Drama](#) web page, under Non-Examination Assessments.

WJEC GCSE Drama Unit 2: Performing Theatre - Visiting Examiner

Your allocated visiting examiner for WJEC GCSE Drama Unit 2 Performing Theatre may have already contacted you to arrange a date for the performances. If not, they should be in contact very shortly.

If you have not been contacted by the 9th January, please email drama@wjec.co.uk so we can look into this for you.

For WJEC GCSE Drama Unit 2 Performing Theatre, centres should submit the recordings of their performances to WJEC *within two weeks* of the final performance date. Centres must submit their work via [Surpass](#).

Centres are advised to read [Unit 2 - Processes for 2026](#), which can be found on the website, for more information regarding the external examination processes.

WJEC GCSE Drama Unit 3: Interpreting Theatre – Specification Update

For candidates taking their final assessment in summer 2026, centres are encouraged to check the [WJEC GCSE Drama specification](#) for amendments. The following information has recently been added to the specification:

- Information regarding the insertion of extracts into Section A of the examination paper
- Information regarding which version of the Unit 3 plays should be purchased by centres.

WJEC GCSE Drama Unit 3: Interpreting Theatre – Exam Paper Layout Update

For candidates being assessed in summer 2026, centres are requested to view the [WJEC GCSE Additional Exemplar Assessment Materials](#), found under Sample Assessment Materials (SAM) on the WJEC GCSE Drama web page. These Additional Exemplar Assessment Materials depict the new layout of Section A of the exam paper. The new layout of the exam paper can also be seen by downloading the summer 2025 question paper from [WJEC Portal](#). To find the 2025 question paper and mark scheme:

- Click on the Resources tab, followed by Past Papers and Marking Schemes
- In the drop-down boxes, choose Drama, WJEC, GCSE, Past Papers, 2025 and then click on the SEARCH tab.

WJEC GCE AS/A Level Drama and Theatre Updates

WJEC GCE Drama and Theatre Unit 1: Theatre Workshop - Upload Deadlines

Centres are reminded of the importance of meeting upload deadlines for GCE Unit 1 Theatre Workshop. Please ensure that all marks are inputted into IAMIS *at least one week* before the deadline, thus ensuring sample requests are created with sufficient time to upload work by the deadline.

Please also note that submission of work for GCE Unit 1 Theatre Workshop will be via IAMIS (Internal Assessment Mark Input System) through [Portal](#). There are guides to support centres with the upload, found under Non-examination assessments on the Drama GCE web page [here](#).

WJEC GCE A Level Drama and Theatre Unit 3: Text in Action - Visiting Examiner

Your allocated visiting examiner for WJEC GCE A Level Drama and Theatre Unit 3 Text in Action may have already contacted you to arrange a date for your learners' performances.

If not, they should be in contact very shortly. If you have not been contacted by 9th January, please email drama@wjec.co.uk so we can look into this for you.

For GCE Drama and Theatre Unit 3 Text in Action, centres should submit the process and evaluation reports and recordings *within a week* of the final performance date. Centres must submit their work via [Surpass](#).

Centres are advised to read [Unit 3 - Processes for 2026](#) for more information regarding the external examination processes.

WJEC GCE Drama and Theatre Unit 2 Text in Theatre and Unit 4 Text in Performance - Specification Update

Centres are encouraged to check the GCE AS/A Level Drama and Theatre [specification](#) for amendments. The following information has been recently added to the specification:

- Information regarding the insertion of extracts into the Unit 2 examination paper and Section A of the Unit 4 examination paper
- Information regarding which version of the Unit 2 and Unit 4 plays should be purchased by centres.

WJEC GCE Drama and Theatre Unit 2 Text in Theatre and Unit 4 Text in Performance - Exam Paper Layout Update

Centres are requested to view the WJEC GCE AS/A Level Drama and Theatre [SAMs](#) and the [Additional Exemplar Assessment materials](#), found under Sample Assessment Materials (SAM) tab on the [WJEC AS/A Level Drama and Theatre](#) qualification page, which depicts the new layout of the Unit 2 exam paper and Section A of the Unit 4 exam paper. The adjusted layout of the exam paper can also be seen by downloading the summer 2025 question papers from the WJEC secure website ([Portal by WJEC](#)). To find the 2025 question papers:

- Click on the Resources tab, followed by Past Papers and Marking Schemes.
- In the drop-down boxes, please choose Drama, WJEC, GCE, Past Papers, 2025 and then click on the SEARCH tab.

WJEC GCE A Level Drama and Theatre Unit 4 Text in Performance New plays for first assessment in Summer 2026

Centres must ensure that they are aware of the new plays listed in the [specification](#) for first assessment in Summer 2026. The new plays are:

The Trial Stephen Berkoff

Blues for an Alabama Sky Pearle Cleage

One Man Two Guvvors Carlo Goldoni (adapted by Richard Bean)

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time Mark Haddon (adapted by Simon Stephens)

The Watsons Laura Wade

Nurses Bethan Marlow

Our Generation Alecky Blythe

An accompanying set of resources for the new plays are available on the [Drama and Theatre - Educational Resources - WJEC](#) website

Please note that the previous set texts for WJEC GCE Unit 2 and Unit 4, including those assessed in summer 2025, will not be available to candidates for assessment, including resits, from September 2025 onwards.

Upcoming Professional Learning Events - WJEC AS/A Level Drama and Theatre

Spring Term: Face to Face events

We will begin the Spring term with a series of face-to-face events designed specifically for the WJEC AS/A Level Drama and Theatre qualification. The event is designed to give both new and experienced teachers a fresh insight into the demands of the specification.

The event will enhance the teaching of each Unit, providing strategies on how learners can produce successful responses to the assessment objectives. Alongside this, the session will explore useful resources to assist with learning and teaching, as well as providing new exemplar responses for each component of the course.

25/02/2026 - WJEC A Level Drama and Theatre: Refreshing Your Insight at 9.30am (English) (Cardiff)

26/02/2026 - WJEC A Level Drama and Theatre: Refreshing your Insight at 9.30am (Welsh) (Llandudno)

To book, please visit the website and find the webpage relevant to the course you are teaching. Then, click on the 'Training' tab, just below the specification. From there, click on the event you wish to book and follow the instructions on the event page.

Centre Networking Map

To support centres and allow you the opportunity to connect with other teachers delivering WJEC Drama, we have set up our Networking Map. To sign up, please complete your details [here](#). We will then give you access to a map and the contact details of other centres who have given permission to be included on the map.

Examine With Us

We're committed to ensuring that all learners' scripts are marked and assessed fairly and accurately. Examiners and Moderators are vital to the delivery of our qualifications, and WJEC employ thousands of teachers, retired teachers, further education lecturers and education specialists to ensure that the quality of our marking continues to be of the highest standards.

Our Appointees team are on hand to answer any queries you may have about examining with us.

Phone: 029 2025 5457 Email: appointees@wjec.co.uk

Get in Touch with the Drama Team

Phone: 029 2240 4299 Email: drama@wjec.co.uk