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Autumn 2026

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Autumn 2026 CPD Courses

London: £299.00+VAT | Online: £249.00+VAT

Drama Leadership

T0069	Outstanding Leadership of a Drama Department	Online: Friday 04 December 2026
T0266	Outstanding Teaching in Drama	London: Friday 11 December 2026

A-Level Drama

T0059	Teaching AQA A-level Drama and Theatre For The First Time	London: Monday 16 November 2026
T0060	AQA A-Level Drama and Theatre: Aiming for A/A*	Online: Wednesday 02 December 2026
T0054	Teaching Eduqas A-Level Drama and Theatre for the First Time	London: Tuesday 10 November 2026
T0289	Eduqas A-Level Drama and Theatre: Aiming for A/A*	Online: Wednesday 25 November 2026
T0061	Teaching Pearson Edexcel A-Level Drama & Theatre for the First Time	London: Tuesday 17 November 2026
T0062	Pearson Edexcel A-Level Drama and Theatre: Aiming for A/A*	Online: Friday 11 December 2026
T0058	Pearson Edexcel A-Level Drama and Theatre: Succeeding in the Written Paper	Online: Friday 27 November 2026

GCSE Drama

T0439	NEW AQA GCSE Drama: Maximising Outcomes in the Written Paper	Online: Friday 06 November 2026
T0364	New to Teaching AQA GCSE Drama	London: Thursday 05 November 2026
T0365	AQA GCSE Drama: Aiming for Grades 7-9	London: Friday 27 November 2026
T0057	New to Teaching Eduqas GCSE Drama	London: Wednesday 09 December 2026
T0056	Eduqas GCSE Drama: Aiming for Grades 8-9	London: Monday 16 November 2026
T0296	New to Teaching Pearson Edexcel GCSE Drama	London: Monday 16 November 2026
T0063	Pearson Edexcel GCSE Drama: Aiming for Grades 8-9	London: Tuesday 08 December 2026

Outstanding Leadership of a Drama Department

Course Code: **T0069**
Course Leader: **Matt King-Sayce**
Online: **Friday 04 December 2026**

OVERVIEW

These are exciting and challenging times to lead a Drama department. This course explores what excellence in Drama looks like and the role of the Head of Drama in achieving and sustaining it within a school. It examines strategies for student recruitment, strengthening teaching and learning, managing teachers at different stages of experience, and maintaining Drama's place within the wider school. The course also provides practical insights into the working year of a Head of Drama, highlighting key opportunities and challenges. Through discussion and practical guidance, delegates will gain effective strategies and ideas to support confident and successful leadership in Drama.

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Explore what makes a Drama department excellent and leadership's role
- Develop strategies to improve and sustain student recruitment in Drama
- Discover ways to strengthen teaching and learning across the department
- Strengthen leadership skills to support and nurture Drama teachers
- Understand the yearly workload and lifecycle of the Head of Drama role

PROGRAMME

10.00am: What is a Successful Drama Department?

- Understanding Drama's position within a school: challenges, opportunities and expectations
- Leading a culture of high-quality teaching, learning and student outcomes
- Inspiring and supporting staff to create a positive and productive department
- Evaluating departmental performance effectively to drive improvement

10.30am: Student Recruitment

- Designing Key Stage 3 curricula that attract and retain students
- Engaging students in both practical and written GCSE Drama work
- Stretching and challenging students while maintaining confidence and enthusiasm
- Promoting Drama through trips, enrichment, department spaces and effective marketing

11.30am: Break

11.45am: Leading Outstanding Teaching and Learning in Drama

- Implementing strategies that ensure consistent, high-quality learning experiences
- Modelling outstanding teaching and developing strong schemes of work
- Using assessment and data effectively to monitor progress and support learners
- Balancing creative autonomy with structure while selecting appropriate student pathways

12.30pm: Lunch

1.30pm: Staff Development – Supporting and Developing Your Team

- Managing and supporting staff at all career stages, including early career teachers
- Making observations, appraisal and departmental meetings purposeful and effective
- Leading change, developing curriculum expertise and maintaining high standards
- Supporting professional development, recruitment and effective departmental systems

2.40pm: Break

2.45pm: How it Works: The Head of Drama

- Managing workload, time and delegation effectively
- Planning strategically and preparing for inspections
- Evaluating the department to drive continued improvement
- Working confidently with SLT while sustaining professional enthusiasm

3.45pm: Depart

Outstanding Teaching in Drama

Course Code: **T0266**
Course Leader: **Matthew Rowland-Roberts**
London: **Friday 11 December 2026**

ABOUT THIS COURSE

This 100% practical course will explore how you can create a buzz for Drama for all of the students in your school. You will leave with a host of practical ideas and methods relating to key Drama practitioners. There will be a strong emphasis on Physical Theatre, Devising and Script Work that will ensure your gifted and talented students attain the very highest grades, while ensuring those with more limited skills still flourish. It is designed to provide both Drama teachers and English teachers with fresh ideas in the classroom. Importantly there will be time to discuss the planning of your Drama curriculum allowing for clear progression.

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Take away important tips, ensuring maximum student engagement.
- Learn professional current methods to guarantee advanced outcomes in both classwork and assessed performances.
- Develop your knowledge and skillset in the teaching of Physical theatre, Devised Theatre and Script Work.
- Build your knowledge of key practitioners such as Berkoff, Complicite, Geko, Frantic Assembly, Stanislavski and Katie Mitchell.
- Learn how to map your Drama curriculum effectively.

PROGRAMME

10.00am: Beginnings

- Understand how to focus students from the outset
- Practical use of Complicite's games and exercises as an approach to physical devising with KS3.
- Applying Geko's approach to ensemble and group work, elevating the outcomes for SEND and EAL students.

11.00am: Break

11.15am: Putting the WOW Factor in Drama

- Frantic Assembly work, leading to group improvisation and introduction of text.
- Berkoff's exploration of rhythm and use of space.

12.45pm: Lunch

1.45pm: Script Work

- Practical use of scripts for class work in KS3 and KS4.
- Enhance your students approach to line learning.
- Building physicality and movement into your teaching of script work.
- Use key practitioners, Katie Mitchell and Stanislavski in your teaching of script work.

2.45pm: Break

2.50pm: Stretching Your Most Able Students in KS4 and KS5

- Focus on the methods of Verbatim practitioner, Alecky Blythe.
- Understand how to apply different forms of Verbatim theatre in to your devising.
- How to combine skills in Physical Theatre with Verbatim
- Applying Sound and Lighting to enhance your students class performances
- Opportunities to discover new scripts
- Map your Drama Curriculum.
- Questions and Answers.

3.50pm: Depart

Teaching AQA A-Level Drama and Theatre for the First Time

Course Code: **T0059**

Course Leader: **Matthew Rowland-Roberts**

London: **Monday 16 November 2026**

OVERVIEW

A practical introduction for teachers new to AQA A-Level Drama and Theatre or seeking greater confidence with the specification. The course explores effective approaches to teaching all components, understanding exam expectations, and structuring the two-year course to help students develop strong practical and written performance.

PROGRAMME INCLUDES

- The AQA A-level Drama course including challenges and what to expect from pupils
- How to effectively teach the set text for Section A of the written exam
- Teaching Section B, the written exam
- Section C: How to effectively teach live theatre review
- Component 2: How to get the most out of students for the Devised Component
- Component 3: Effectively managing the scripted component

AQA A-Level Drama and Theatre: Aiming for Grades A/A*

Course Code: **T0060**

Course Leader: **Matthew Rowland-Roberts**

London: **Wednesday 02 December 2026**

OVERVIEW

This course focuses on helping teachers stretch their most able students to achieve A and A* in AQA A-Level Drama and Theatre. It explores examiner expectations, analyses top-grade responses, and shares practical strategies across written and practical components to develop the higher-level skills needed for outstanding performance.

PROGRAMME INCLUDES

- Grades A and A* in AQA A Level Drama: What is Required
- Teaching Component 1: Key Challenges for Grade A/A* Students
- Component 1 Section C: Tactics for achieving the highest grades
- Components 2 & 3 The Practical Components
- Practical Strategies to Really Stretch Top End Students

Teaching Eduqas A-Level Drama and Theatre for the First Time

Course Code: **T0054**

Course Leader: **Rachel Allaway**

London: **Tuesday 10 November 2026**

OVERVIEW

A practical introduction for teachers new to Eduqas A-Level Drama and Theatre or looking to build confidence with the specification. The course explores effective teaching approaches, course planning, and assessment expectations, while sharing strategies and resources to help students of all abilities maximise their potential.

PROGRAMME INCLUDES

- The Eduqas A-level Drama course including challenges and what to expect from pupils
- Component 3: Text in Performance
- Successful approaches to Component 2: Text in Action
- How to Effectively Teach Component 1: Theatre Workshop

Eduqas A-Level Drama and Theatre: Aiming for A/A*

Course Code: **T0289**

Course Leader: **Rachel Allaway**

London: **Wednesday 25 November 2026**

OVERVIEW

This course supports teachers in helping high-attaining students achieve A and A* in Eduqas A-Level Drama and Theatre. It explores examiner expectations, characteristics of top-grade work, and practical strategies across all components to stretch the most able and build a coherent two-year curriculum that secures outstanding outcomes.

PROGRAMME INCLUDES

- Achieving A and A* in Eduqas A-Level Drama
- Component 1: Devising Theatre – Teaching for Maximum Impact
- Achieving A/A* in Component 3: Interpreting Theatre – Section A
- Achieving A/A* in Component 3: Sections B and C
- Component 2: Performing Theatre – Facilitating Outstanding Practical Work

Teaching Pearson Edexcel A-Level Drama & Theatre for the First Time

Course Code: **T0061**
Course Leader: **Matt King-Sayce**
London: **Tuesday 17 November 2026**

OVERVIEW

This course is designed for new teachers and teachers in their first years of teaching Pearson Edexcel A-Level Drama & Theatre and focuses on how to facilitate excellent outcomes for all students across the three components of the course. The course focuses on pedagogy and practice and provides specific guidance and support for both the written and practical components. There is an emphasis on how to structure the course and offers a raft of tips and strategies for supporting students in their bid to access the top band marks.

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Take away strategies to support the development of students' written and practical skills
- Develop an awareness of effective planning and structuring of the course
- Learn how to manage design and performance candidates simultaneously
- Develop strategies to promote effective learning and the collaborative practices which underpin components 1 and 2
- Learn how to develop students' ability to articulate their understanding of text and process in written form

PROGRAMME

10.00am: Overview of Pearson Edexcel A-Level Drama & Theatre
- Ensuring teachers and students start the course confidently in September
- Key challenges and opportunities across the specification and components
- Structuring and mapping the course to engage students and meet assessment objectives
- Understanding expectations for high attainment and A/A* level performance

10.40am: Break

11.00am: How to Teach Component 1 Effectively
- Selecting and teaching texts and practitioners effectively
- Balancing performance and process in classroom practice
- Supporting students in planning and producing high-quality portfolios
- Providing effective feedback, assessment and guidance for improvement

12.00pm: Component 2 – Performance from Text
- Planning teaching approaches that support success in Component 2
- Choosing texts that allow access to the higher mark bands
- Understanding assessment requirements for performance and design
- Building student confidence and independence as performers and designers

1.00pm: Lunch

2.00pm: How to Teach Component 3 Effectively
- Understanding the key challenges and expectations of Component 3
- Teaching approaches that develop analytical and written responses
- Using practical exploration of set texts to deepen understanding
- Recognising the characteristics of top-band and A/A* responses

3.00pm: Break

3.05pm: Achieving Unbelievable Results
- Supporting students to move from middle grades to A/A* performance
- Identifying barriers and planning strategies to overcome them
- Developing strong written exam responses, including extended essays
- Applying effective revision strategies, tactics and exam techniques

3.40pm: Depart

Pearson Edexcel A-Level Drama: Aiming for A/A*

Course Code: **T0062**
Course Leader: **Matt King-Sayce**
London: **Friday 11 December 2026**

OVERVIEW

This course focuses on helping teachers support their highest-attaining students to achieve A and A* in Pearson Edexcel A-Level Drama and Theatre. It explores examiner expectations, characteristics of top-grade work, and practical teaching strategies across all components to stretch the most able and maximise success in the final assessments.

PROGRAMME INCLUDES

- Achieving A and A* in Pearson/Edexcel A Level Drama
- Component 1: Teaching for Maximum Impact
- Achieving A and A* in Component 3: Section A
- Achieving A and A* in Component 3: Sections B & C
- Component 2: Facilitating Outstanding Practical Work

Pearson Edexcel A-Level Drama and Theatre: Succeeding in the Written Paper

Course Code: **T0058**
Course Leader: **Matt King-Sayce**
London: **Friday 27 November 2026**

OVERVIEW

This course supports teachers in improving student performance in the written component of Pearson Edexcel A-Level Drama and Theatre. It explores effective approaches to teaching set texts, analysing live theatre, and developing strong written responses, alongside practical strategies and resources to build confidence and raise attainment in the exam.

PROGRAMME INCLUDES

- Developing A Level written work
- Component 3. 1) Live Theatre Evaluation
- Component 3. 2) Page to Stage: realisation of an extract from a performance text. Performer and Designer
- Component 3. 2) Page to Stage: Teaching skills to answer the extract-based exam questions
- Component 3. 3) Interpreting one performance text, in light of one practitioner for a contemporary audience
- Questions and Evaluation

NEW AQA GCSE Drama: Maximising Outcomes in the Written Paper

Course Code: **T0439**
Course Leader: **Megan Cambridge**
London: **Friday 06 November 2026**

OVERVIEW

This new practical, evidence-informed course is designed for teachers of AQA GCSE Drama who want to maximise student success in the written examination. Focusing on both the Set Text and Live Theatre Evaluation, the course explores what distinguishes high-performing responses and how teachers can develop students' confidence, analytical skills and exam technique throughout the GCSE course.

The course will focus on raising attainment by strengthening subject knowledge, developing students' evaluative writing and ensuring they understand precisely what examiners are looking for in the highest-mark responses.

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Gain a clear understanding of the assessment requirements and expectations for the AQA written paper
- Explore practical strategies for teaching both the Set Text and Live Theatre Evaluation with confidence
- Develop effective approaches to building students' analytical, evaluative and extended writing skills
- Examine exemplar responses to identify the features of top-band answers.
- Take away practical teaching resources, revision activities and feedback strategies that can be used immediately.
- Learn how to avoid common misconceptions and maximise students' performance across all sections of the written paper.

PROGRAMME

10.00am: Introduction and Reflection on Previous Exam Series.

- Reviewing key feedback and lessons from the most recent written examination series
- Using examiner reports to inform teaching practice and improve student outcomes
- Developing effective revision checklists and retrieval strategies for the written paper
- Understanding the needs of different learners: developing higher-order thinking and differentiating for success

10.45am: Break

11.00am: Section B – Study of the Set Text

- Effective approaches to exploring the set text and developing students' own interpretations
- Practical strategies for teaching the set text through both practical and written work
- Building students' understanding of acting and design concepts within the set text
- Moving from secure responses to top-band answers: what examiners are looking for
- Examining high-quality exemplar responses for Section B and identifying the features of success

1.00pm: Lunch

2.00pm: Section C – Live Theatre Response

- Developing students' confidence in analysing and evaluating live theatre effectively
- Planning and preparing for the live theatre component throughout the course
- Exploring top-band responses and the analytical skills required for the highest marks
- Practical approaches to helping students write perceptive and well-supported evaluations

3.00pm: Break

3.15pm: Final Comments and Q&A

- Key takeaways, next steps and opportunities for questions and professional discussion

3.30pm: Depart

New to Teaching AQA GCSE Drama

Course Code: **T0364**
Course Leader: **Megan Cambridge**
London: **Thursday 05 November 2026**

OVERVIEW

This course provides a clear introduction to teaching AQA GCSE Drama, offering practical guidance on delivering the specification confidently and effectively. It explores course structure, assessment expectations, and strategies to engage students, while supporting teachers in developing approaches that help learners of all abilities achieve strong outcomes.

PROGRAMME INCLUDES

- Outline of the GCSE Course with AQA.
- Component 1 – The Written Exam
- Component 2 – Devising Theatre
- Component 3 – Practical Examination
- Final Summary and Q&A

AQA GCSE Drama: Aiming for Grades 8-9

Course Code: **T0365**
Course Leader: **Megan Cambridge**
London: **Friday 27 November 2026**

OVERVIEW

This course is designed for teachers who want to stretch and challenge students to achieve grades 7–9 in AQA GCSE Drama. It explores what distinguishes top-performing students across all components and shares practical teaching strategies to help learners move from good to exceptional performance.

PROGRAMME INCLUDES

- Achieving Grades 8–9 in AQA GCSE Drama: High-Level Performance Across the Course 10:00am
- Component 1: Unlocking Top Marks in the Written Exam Component 2: Devising for the Highest Grades
- Component 3: Elevating Scripted Performance to the Highest Level
- Wrap-Up and Reflections

New to Teaching Eduqas GCSE Drama

Course Code: **T0057**

Course Leader: **Rachel Allaway**

London: **Wednesday 09 December 2026**

OVERVIEW

This course offers an introduction and overview of Eduqas GCSE Drama, providing essential skills and tips in how to effectively deliver the specification, ensuring maximum student engagement and maximum attainment. It is suitable for anyone just starting to teach Drama, in their first few years of teaching or lacking confidence in teaching Eduqas GCSE Drama. Whilst the focus of the day will be on the Eduqas course, many of the ideas will be applicable to all Drama lessons.

PROGRAMME INCLUDES

- Overview of the Eduqas GCSE Course
- Component 1 – Devising Theatre NEA: Complexities and Challenges
- Component 2 – Performing from a Text
- Teaching Component 3 Effectively
- Achieving Unbelievable Results

Eduqas GCSE Drama: Aiming for Grades 8-9

Course Code: **T0056**

Course Leader: **Rachel Allaway**

London: **Monday 16 November 2026**

OVERVIEW

This course is focused on meeting the demands of the higher-level marking bands across all three of the specification components. It will focus on exploring the characteristics of work produced by students working at the highest levels and examine a range of teaching materials designed to secure the best possible outcomes. The course will cover what is expected of high ability students and outline ways to successfully build on your own teaching practice and embed new methods of working.

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Assessment Demands for Grades 8–9 and Key Examiner Feedback
- Achieving Top Grades in Component 1
- Outstanding Performance in Component 2
- Achieving Grades 8–9 on the Component 3 Written Paper
- Strategies to Stretch Top-End Students
- Final Exam Tips

New to Teaching Pearson Edexcel GCSE Drama

Course Code: **T0296**

Course Leader: **Matt King-Sayce**

London: **Monday 16 November 2026**

OVERVIEW

This course supports teachers in preparing students for success in Pearson Edexcel GCSE Drama exams. It explores key lessons from recent examinations, effective teaching approaches across all components, and practical strategies to strengthen performance, written responses, and exam technique to maximise student outcomes.

PROGRAMME INCLUDES

- Overview of the Pearson Edexcel GCSE Drama Course
- Component 1: The Complexities and Challenges
- Component 2: Performing from a Text
- How to Teach Component 3 Effectively
- Achieving Unbelievable Results

Pearson Edexcel GCSE Drama: Achieving Grades 8-9

Course Code: **T0063**

Course Leader: **Matt King-Sayce**

London: **Tuesday 08 December 2026**

OVERVIEW

This course helps teachers support students aiming for the highest grades in Pearson Edexcel GCSE Drama. It explores the assessment demands across all components, the characteristics of top-band work, and practical teaching strategies designed to help students reach Grades 8 and 9.

PROGRAMME INCLUDES

- Understanding the Assessment Demands for Grades 8–9
- Securing Top Grades in Component 1: Devising Theatre
- Delivering Outstanding Performance in Component 2
- Achieving Grades 8–9 in the Component 3 Written Paper

Empowering Educators, Inspiring Learners, Transforming Futures

Delivering Excellence in Education for Over 25 Years

Keynote educational

At Keynote Educational, we believe in the power of high-quality teaching and learning development to transform classroom practice and raise student outcomes. For more than two decades, we have worked alongside schools, teachers, and students to deliver training that is impactful, practical, and forward-thinking. Let us support your school's objectives with a tailored package, including teacher and leadership CPD courses, bespoke staff training, impactful student revision events, and expert exam marking.

DRAMA

Teacher CPD Courses

Informative, practical, and inspiring - our CPD courses focus on wide a range of subject specific areas and departmental leadership. Designed by our expert team and delivered by experienced course leaders and examiners, each course offers up-to-date strategies, real classroom insight, and tools to boost teacher confidence and student success.

Leadership CPD Courses

Our leadership courses are engaging, practical, and aligned with the latest priorities and developments. Whether you're stepping into your first leadership role or considering your next career move up the leadership ladder, our courses will give you a deeper understanding of who you are as a leader, what you stand for, and how to move forward with impact.

National Conferences

Our national conferences bring together leading experts, practitioners, and school leaders to explore the most pressing priorities and challenges in education and leadership. Each conference offers high-impact insight, practical strategies and the latest thinking - equipping delegates with knowledge they can take straight back and implement in school.

In-School Teacher Events

Whether it's whole-school training, department development, or leadership support, our in-school sessions provide a flexible, cost-effective way to bring expert-led professional learning to your staff. All our subject and leadership CPD courses can be delivered directly in your school and tailored to meet your specific priorities.

In-School Student Events

High-impact, focused, and flexible, our in-school revision sessions are led by expert and experienced examiners. Designed for GCSE and A-Level students, each event targets key exam techniques, revision strategies, and examiner expectations. Students leave feeling more confident, better prepared, and ready to succeed – with sessions available face to face or online to suit your school's needs.

Exam Marking & Assessment

Fast, accurate, and impartial – our exam marking service provides detailed assessment and feedback for both students and teachers. We only use experienced, exam board-trained examiners to ensure the highest quality and consistency. Covering A-Level and GCSE across all major exam boards, our marking helps identify strengths, target areas for improvement, and prepare students more effectively for final exams.

> *"As an international school, we benefitted from a tailored CPD course delivered online to our teachers. The trainer's expert guidance allowed us to apply strategies immediately and address follow-up questions. This year, our cohort achieved 100% A*-A grades, and the training was key in helping our teachers support pupil success."*
>
> **Harrow International School**

Scan the QR code to get in touch

Let's Work Together

Whether you're planning your next professional development programme or need advice on student revision and assessment, our team is here to help. Let's work together to find the right solutions for your school.

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