



Whakaari | Drama
Programme of Learning
2025

Welcome to Level 1 NCEA Whakaari Drama for 2025, and an exciting year of learning. Your course is planned to provide you with opportunities to achieve success in NCEA while further developing your knowledge and capabilities as a performer.

Te toi whakairo, ka ihiihi, ka wehiwehi, ka aweawe te ao katoa

Artistic excellence makes the world sit up in wonder

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari kē he toa takitini

My success should not be bestowed onto me alone, it was not individual success but the success of a collective

In Year 11 Drama (Level 1 NCEA), students will explore Whanaungatanga (relationships and kinship), building strong connections with their peers while enhancing both individual and collaborative performance skills.

This course places a particular focus on New Zealand Theatre, encouraging students to look to our own communities for inspiration and draw from local stories and cultural narratives to create meaningful and relevant performances.

Students will build on fundamental drama techniques, exploring various acting methods and performance practices to deepen their understanding of theatre. Through devising original works, they will engage in creative processes that promote self-expression, collaboration, and critical thinking. Additionally, students will contribute to a class production, bringing together their collective talents to create and perform a fully realised theatrical piece.

By the end of the year, students will have developed a greater appreciation for New Zealand's rich theatrical heritage while honing their skills in performance and storytelling. This course sets the foundation for further study in Year 12 Drama and beyond, where they will continue to explore the power of theatre to reflect and inspire change in our communities.



What will I learn in Drama this year?

Three main strands run through the Drama course: performing, creating theatre, and studying theatre.

With a focus on manaakitanga and whakawhanaungatanga will build on your understanding of drama-specific vocabulary to help you articulate your thoughts when discussing or writing about drama practice. We will research a specific theatre form and use that knowledge to perform in that style. You will regularly perform in front of each other to help you become more confident in performing, as well as to give and receive constructive feedback to improve your practice. Additionally, you will develop your self-reflection practices to help you become more aware of the quality changes you are making in your work.

In general, the course is taught holistically, with all aspects covered throughout the year.

Many skills and dispositions reflective of the **Rangi Graduate** and **Rangi Values** are developed that are crucial for performers, and these form the basis of teaching and learning in the course:

- **Confidence, self-belief and resilience:** Every performance is a risk. Successful performers embrace this and, while demonstrating **Rikarika | Endeavour** and striving for their best, accept that there is no such thing as a 'perfect' performance.
- **Creativity:** Drama is a creative pursuit. In senior Drama classes, you really begin to develop your own voice and style as a performer and creator. Being true to your own voice is a demonstration of **Tika | Integrity**.
- **Self-management:** motivating and organising yourself to consistently rehearse, memorise lines and create characters. Preparing for performance and creating original works are processes that require **Rikarika | Endeavour**, and consistent time over a sustained period.
- **Collaboration, empathy and connectedness:** Creating theatre is a collaborative process. There are many opportunities to share and be inspired by the other members of the class and wider Rangi whānau. **Aroha, Whakaute | Respect** and **Manaakitanga | Generosity of Spirit** are all crucial to the successful functioning of this whānau.

What sorts of things will I do?

- Work in pairs to present short, scripted performance
- Work in pairs or small groups to perform excerpts from Theatre Aotearoa
- Rehearse and perform a play as a class
- Take and use direction in performance
- Devise work in groups
- Research plays and playwrights

What qualifications can I gain?

All Level 1 students, undertake three standards totalling 15 credits, which includes the possibility of subject endorsement. Further standards are available and may be taken in consultation with the classroom teacher. See below for full information.

Below is a summary of the standards that make up the Year 11 course.

Achievement Standard Number	Subject reference	Version number	Topic/Title	Mode of Assessment	Credits
91941	1.2	1	Participate in creative strategies to create a drama	Internal	5
91942	1.3	1	Perform a scripted role for an audience using drama techniques	External	5
91940	1.1	1	Explore the function of Theatre Aotearoa	Internal	5

How and when will my work be assessed?

Assessment for learning is an ongoing process of self-reflection throughout the course. We encourage students to give themselves and others positive and next-step feedback.

You will self-reflect on assessed performances before receiving teacher feedback.

Each assessment task has criteria that set the standard for students to achieve a particular outcome. All of the criteria must be met for the work to meet the standard at a particular level. There are four possible outcomes for each achievement standard. Your work will either not meet the standard, (Not Achieved), meet the standard (Achieved), exceed the standard (achieved with Merit), or far exceed the standard (achieved with Excellence).

- For **1.2 AS91941, Participate in creative strategies to create a drama**, you will work on this as a group process, negotiating and extending ideas in a devising process. You will experiment with, select and extend the use of drama elements and conventions to create a coherent devised drama. Your teacher and peers will provide formative assessment throughout the term, and there will be **ONE** final assessment performance which will be watched by the teacher and classmates/friends and family and videoed for moderation purposes.

- For **1.3 AS91942, Perform a scripted role for an audience using drama techniques**, you will combine drama techniques to deliver a convincing performance of a role from a script. There will be a number of performance opportunities throughout the year, which will be recorded. Towards the deadline for submission, you will have a conversation with your classroom teacher about which performance is most suitable for submission.
- For **1.1 AS91940, Explore the function of Theatre Aotearoa**, you will look into the function of Drama; to heal, educate, entertain or transform society. You will look at Theatre Aotearoa through an intermix of cultural identities, perspectives, and practices. The works you will research and perform include drama set in Aotearoa, as well as work made by New Zealanders within international settings.

Whom do I ask if I have questions about the course and/or assessment?

Ask the Head of Learning Area, Theatre Arts, Miss Cope. The Director of Theatre Arts, Ms Bell, can answer any questions relating to co-curricular groups and activities within the Theatre Arts department.

- Remember that this qualification will allow others to readily identify your strengths. You will want to perform at your best throughout the year so that you receive the best results you are capable of.
- Be focused, attentive and involved in learning in class.
- Learn any lines you have for a performance as early as possible, as this will allow you to focus on your communicating your character their relationships to the audience.
- Use class-time effectively to listen, discuss, and question. Be organised, complete work within the allocated time frame. Maintain an organised digital and/or physical folder of work. Backup your digital materials regularly.
- Take every opportunity to practise and develop your skills.
- Take note of the feedback (oral and/or written) you receive about your skills and use it to try and improve your skills.
- For internal assessment tasks, make sure that you acquaint yourself with what is needed to achieve the standard by reading the criteria and examining the exemplars closely.
- Remember to ask your teacher if you are unsure about anything. We want you to succeed and are happy to help you.

Belong. Be You. Be Your Best.

Enjoy your year of Whakaari | Drama!