



Key information for the Drama Stage 6 syllabus (2009)

- Schools and teachers use syllabuses to develop educational programs for students. The [Drama Stage 6 Syllabus \(2009\)](#) requires students to study the practices of Making 40%, Performing 30% and Critically Studying 30% over 240 hours.
- Drama Stage 6 specific course requirements are outlined in the [Drama Stage 6 Syllabus \(2009\)](#) including, Preliminary and HSC course components, and HSC topics and options.
- Schools are required to develop an assessment program for each Year 11 and Year 12 course. School-based assessment requirements are outlined at [Assessment and reporting in Drama Stage 6](#).
- The Drama Stage 6 Syllabus (2009) has subject specific terms in a glossary that are important to know. The glossary can be found within the syllabus document on pp 34–35.
- NESA's list of course prescriptions for the HSC course can be found at [Course prescriptions for Drama Stage 6 2025–2027](#). Topics, texts and rubrics may be changed in total or in part every 3 to 6 years.

HSC Examinations

- The HSC Drama examination consists of both practical and written examinations. Details of the HSC Drama examination can be found at [Assessment and reporting in Drama](#) and [Drama Stage 6 \(2009\): HSC practical tasks and submitted work marking guidelines](#). See [HSC Drama performances and submitted works](#) webpage for marking criteria and specific requirements.
- Past HSC papers are a useful resource to help students to become familiar with the examination format and structure. Past papers for Drama can be found at [Drama 2025 HSC exam pack](#).
- HSC standards materials by NESA provide a collection of resources of sample responses typical of work at the boundaries between HSC bands. The [Drama Stage 6 HSC standards materials](#) can be found on the NESA webpages.

Support materials

The Creative arts curriculum team provides resources to support NSW teachers in the implementation of the Drama Stage 6 syllabus these can be located on the [planning, programming and assessing Drama 11–12](#) webpage. Here you will find sample scopes and sequences, sample assessment schedules and tasks, teaching and learning resources for Preliminary and HSC Drama, including [Assessment in the HSC](#).

NESA also has a range of support materials on the [Drama Stage 6 Syllabus \(2009\)](#) webpage.

Professional learning

There are a range of 'on demand' professional learning resources to support the implementation of the Drama Stage 6 syllabus including:

- MyPL courses including, [Stage 6 drama – Preliminary](#), [Stage 6 drama – HSC](#), [Stage 6 drama – inside the projects](#), [The drama essay](#) and [Drama written exam bump-in](#).
- Statewide Staffroom professional learning recordings and presentation materials in the drama channel [Drama PL sessions](#) file including, IP working-bee series and Success in Stage 6: Extended response writing in drama PL.

The department also offers a range of live online and face-to-face professional learning events throughout the year. To view any upcoming events go to the [Creative arts statewide staffroom](#).

General HSC information

- The [NSW Education Standards Authority \(NESA\)](#) oversees the Higher School Certificate (HSC), offering resources for students on exam preparation, course selection, and academic integrity.
- The [NESA HSC glossary](#) provides teachers with guidance on how to use key terms consistently, ensuring students understand their meanings and apply them appropriately across various subjects for effective exam preparation.
- The NESA [HSC assessment moderation](#) process ensures fairness by adjusting school assessment marks based on exam results, making them comparable across schools.
- The [ACE rules](#) outline HSC school-based assessment integrity, task development, marking, appeals, and record-keeping. They cover malpractice policies, illness/misadventure procedures, task notifications, ranking, and restrictions on reporting final marks, ensuring compliance with NESA's assessment standards.
- HSC monitoring advice, Section 1.6 outlines HSC record-keeping requirements, including teaching programs, assessment documentation, interventions and work samples. Visit [Stage 6 – monitoring implementation and support](#) for more information.
- School-based assessment for the HSC contributes to a student's final mark and is designed to evaluate students' understanding and skills based on syllabus outcomes.

Contact us

If you would like further information or support, please email creativearts7-12@det.nsw.edu.au or reach out to our team via the [Creative arts Statewide Staffroom](#). You can also subscribe to our [Creative Arts Newsletter](#).

