

**PREPARE FOR SUCCESS:**

**YOUR 8-WEEK COUNTDOWN TO TRINITY DRAMA EXAMS FOR GROUPS**



You've chosen your performance pieces and Trinity Drama syllabus specification, now it's time to get ready for a successful exam with our 8-week countdown checklist! This countdown is specifically designed for teachers preparing students for Trinity face-to-face Group and In Production exams.

Group Drama exams present a remarkable opportunity for students of all abilities to cultivate their teamwork skills as they work together to achieve a common goal. Our In Production exams welcome all parts of your production group for assessment including your technical, costume, and lighting team members. Both exam-types offer excellent preparation for GCSE.

This 8-week roadmap will help you keep everything on track, avoid last minute panics and ensure your students feel confident and fully prepared to shine on their big day.



## 8 WEEKS BEFORE



### Book the exam:

- ▶ Secure your exam date, venue (if necessary) and examiner by booking at least 8 weeks in advance.
- ▶ Set out a clear rehearsal schedule now, so all students, parents and teachers involved are aware of their commitments and responsibilities.

## 6 WEEKS BEFORE



### Additional needs:

- ▶ Confirm with your students whether any additional needs or adjustments are required and inform Trinity, so that arrangements can be put in place for the exam.

## 1 MONTH BEFORE



### Finalise the repertoire:

- ▶ Review exam pieces to ensure they fully showcase the candidate's abilities effectively and make any necessary adjustments.
- ▶ Double check that the texts meet exam criteria and task requirements.

## 3 WEEKS BEFORE



### Exam timetabling:

- ▶ Schools will need to create timetables on the Trinity portal. Your school will have been given access to your portal as soon as you became a Trinity centre.
- ▶ If you are not managing timetabling yourself, liaise with the person managing timetables to best organise your candidates.
- ▶ Consider factors like candidate nerves; consider scheduling nervous candidates earlier in the day to minimise waiting time.

## 2 WEEKS BEFORE

### Organise a mock exam/dress rehearsal:

- ▶ Provide students with an audience and/or a stand-in examiner. We would also recommend using younger years as an audience to inspire the next generation of drama students.
- ▶ Allow students to perform and receive valuable feedback.
- ▶ Use feedback to tweak performances before the final exam.

### Review performance skills:

- ▶ Assess critical performance skills like projection, diction, expression and movement.

## 1 WEEK BEFORE

### Organise your paperwork:

- ▶ Print and distribute all necessary Trinity paperwork for the exam day.
- ▶ Ensure candidates have Trinity appointment slips in advance.

### Plan for exam day:

- ▶ Prepare students for the exam day logistics (location, time, etc).
- ▶ Verify that all students have required materials (scripts, scores/lyrics sheets).
- ▶ Allow ample time for warm-up and relaxation before the exam.
- ▶ Discuss the exam process with students, including room entrance, initial conversation with the examiner, performances and the exam tasks.

### Final rehearsals:

- ▶ Conduct a comprehensive rehearsal of exam pieces and specific skills that will be tested during the exam.

## THE DAY OF THE EXAM



Give your students the reassurance they need and some best practice tips to ensure their exam is a success.

### Advice for candidates:

- ▶ Arrive early at the exam location for warm-up and relaxation.
- ▶ Stay calm, focused and trust your preparation.
- ▶ Remember that if you forget a line, keep going; you can handle it.
- ▶ Trinity examiners work to create a friendly and supportive atmosphere that students can enjoy.
- ▶ Concentrate on deep breathing to reduce nerves.
- ▶ Embrace the moment, do your best and enjoy the experience.
- ▶ All participating students receive a digital certificate.



## TRINITY GRADED DRAMA EXAMS FROM 2023

Trinity's improved and updated 2023 Drama syllabus specifications offer the high levels of flexibility, range and quality expected by drama teachers, with the additional advantage of being more fully aligned to professional performing arts training, employment and education.

More details about the five specifications available for graded exams for Groups, In Production and also solo candidates can be found on [Trinity's website](#).

