



Drama Studios

AUDIO VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS -
PRELIMINARY GUIDANCE ON SPECIFICATION AND COST

To offer initial guidance for a drama space, we have described a range of typical schemes. As well as proposals, quotations and installation, we can also assist in producing specifications and drawings for client approval or tendering. DDA requirements need to be determined, co-ordination is imperative, electric supplies and containment will be required and maybe even extra steelwork.

WHAT GOES IN A DRAMA STUDIO

Drama studios are found in almost every high school, college and academy, also in some community venues or leisure centres, and may also double as a dance studio or multi-purpose stage area. Typical drama equipment could include tracks and curtains to create a "black box" space, also with lighting rigs and fixed or portable sound systems. There may even be a requirement for portable staging, ballet mirrors and barres, projection equipment or seating.

A BASIC SCHEME

Even a basic drama studio requires some lighting and sound. Lighting could comprise of maybe a 12-circuit fixed rig with a few lanterns, or a portable system on stands, both systems having dimmers and control consoles. Sound could include an infrastructure with two speakers and amplifier, allowing the end user to plug in their CD player or ipod. **This type of scheme would typically cost in the region of £10K - £15K.**

A MID-RANGE SCHEME

Most drama studios include a perimeter track and black curtains, the lighting rig would include an aluminium/steel wired grid structure, up to 24-channels of dimmable lighting with control, a selection of lanterns, and a sound system with a couple of speakers, microphones, and a CD or other replay equipment. **This type of scheme would typically cost in the region of £25K - £30K.**

A SUPERIOR SCHEME

As well as a conventional perimeter track and black curtains, the lighting rig may be on electric raise and lower gear to assist with disabled access, wired with up to 48 dimmable channels, control console, and a selection of lanterns. The sound system may have extra speakers, more microphones, replay equipment and sound effects processors. In addition, a projection system may be required, portable staging, also posture mirrors and ballet barres for dance use. **This type of scheme would typically cost in the region of £50K - £70K.**

