

# DRAMA AND THEATRE



## **DRAMA AND THEATRE (AQA)**

### **Level of Study: A-Level**

### **Description of Course**

The course provides opportunities for you to pursue particular aspects of study within the context of general knowledge and experience of theatre. The approach for preparation for the examination will be through related theory and practice.

The A-Level Drama and Theatre specification provides:-

- coverage of **4 main areas of study** of drama and theatre:-
  - Preparing, developing and performing your own devised and scripted practical work
  - Studying set texts
  - Exploring the work of important theatre practitioners
  - Responding to live productions you have seen during the course

### **Skills Required**

The course demands a high level of commitment, concentration and sensitivity. You need to be able to evaluate and appreciate past and current theatrical practice. An ability to reflect on and evaluate the complexity and significance of both content and process is essential. A full commitment to lunchtime, after school and February half term/Easter break rehearsals is also required as is your attendance on a number of trips to experience live theatre.

### **Entry Qualifications**

You should have studied Drama at GCSE and obtained at least a Level 6. A Level 6 in English GCSE is also advisable. Students from other school need to meet the above requirements and be successful in a short audition/interview.

### **Method of Assessment**

- **This is a two year A-Level.**
- **All assessment is linear, with practical assessments throughout the course and written examinations taking place at the end of the two year course**
- **60% of the A-Level is assessed through practical exploration, which include written reports and 40% through the written examination**

### **Educational Progression and Career Opportunities**

This A-Level helps to develop both your critical and analytical skills. You learn to work effectively under pressure, in a group situation. The subject gives flexibility of choice for further study. Candidates have gone on to study such diverse subjects as Law, Art History, French, Psychology, English, Information Technology as well as Drama at University and Drama School.



## A-Level (3 Components)

### **Component 1: Drama and theatre (Written Paper)**

Written

Skills assessed:

- Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre
- Study of **two** set plays
- Analysis and evaluation of a live production seen during the course

Assessment:

- 3 hour paper
- Open book
- 80 marks
- 40% of A-Level

.Questions:

Section A: One question on the first set play – 'Antigone' by Sophocles (25 marks)

Section B: Three questions on a given extract from the second set play – 'Yerma' by Lorca (30 marks)

Section C: One question on a live production seen during the course (25 marks)

### **Component 2: Creating original drama (Practical)**

Devised

Skills assessed:

- Process of creating devised drama
- Performance of devised drama

Devised piece must be influenced by the work and methodologies of one prescribed practitioner

Assessment:

- A working notebook of the process (40 marks)
- Devised performance (20 marks)
- 60 marks in total
- 30% of A-Level

### **Component 3: Making theatre (Practical)**

Scripted

Skills assessed:

- Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts each taken from a different play
- Methodology of a prescribed practitioner applied to Extract 3. This is then performed and assessed
- Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts

Assessment:

- Performance of Extract 3 (40 marks)
- Reflective Report (20 marks)
- 60 marks in total
- 30% of A-Level

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