

DRAMA & THEATRE



Course content

A-level Drama and Theatre offers students the opportunity to explore drama as a practical art form, in which ideas and meaning are communicated to an audience through choices of form, style and convention.

Students will:

- create, perform and respond to drama and theatre
- develop the creativity and independence to become effective theatre makers
- explore the relationship between theory and practice in a range of theatrical styles and periods and historical, social and cultural contexts
- learn how relevant research, independent thought and analysis of live theatre production can inform decision making in their practical work and put this understanding into practice
- experience the ways in which theatre makers collaborate to create theatre.

The subject content for A-level Drama and Theatre is divided into three components:

1. Drama and Theatre
2. Creating Original Drama
3. Making Theatre

Component 1: Drama and Theatre

What's assessed?

- Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre
- Study of two set plays
- Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers

How is it assessed?

- Written Exam: 3 Hours
- Open book
- 80 Marks
- 40% of A Level

Component 2: Creating Original Drama

What's assessed?

- Process of creating devised drama
- Performance of devised drama

How it is assessed?

- Working notebook (40 marks)

Component 3: Making Theatre

What's assessed?

- Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts, each taken from a different play.
- Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts.

How is it assessed?

- Performance of extract 3 (40 marks)
- Reflective report (20 marks)
- 60 marks in total
- 30% of A level

A level Drama and Theatre encourages students to:

- develop and apply an informed, analytical framework for making, performing, interpreting and understanding drama and theatre
- understand the place of relevant theoretical research in informing the processes and practices involved in creating theatre and the place of practical exploration in informing theoretical knowledge of drama and theatre
- develop an understanding and appreciation of how social, cultural and historical contexts of performance texts have influenced the development of drama and theatre
- understand the practices used in 21st century theatre making
- experience a range of opportunities to create theatre both published text-based and devised work
- participate as a theatre maker and as an audience member in live theatre
- understand and experience the collaborative relationship between various roles within theatre
- develop and demonstrate a range of theatre making skills
- develop the creativity and independence to become effective theatre makers
- adopt safe working practices as a theatre maker
- analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others.

Drama and Theatre offers the best chance for students to build theory-based and practical, physical presentation-skills that will develop life skills that no other subject can offer. Past-students who have studied Drama have gone on to prolific careers in neuro surgery; marketing; psychology; English and of course Drama – to name but a few!

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