

Drama & Theatre Studies A Level

Who is the course for?

Drama offers you the chance to extend your GCSE knowledge and really explore the subject through developing a more analytical approach to your practical performances as well as developing your ability to understand different theatrical genres in more detail.

You should follow the course if you enjoy the following:

- Practical and performance work, working independently and in groups
- Devising creative performance work in a variety of different styles and genres
- Exploring script based work and performing to an audience
- Analysing the historical, political and cultural aspects of plays and playwrights
- Watching and reviewing live theatre and understanding and analysing theatre practitioners in devised and script work
- Reflecting and evaluating your own and other students work

What does the course involve?

The course encourages imaginative and critical thinking and develops your skills in performance. It is a course that gives confidence and communication skills, as well as preparing you academically for a literature style written exam.

The course is designed to provide you with a broad understanding of theatre and of a variety of playwrights and genres. Class discussion will give you an understanding of the theory, but you will also regularly be putting the theory into practice by doing practical performances of the different styles.

Assessment Methods

A level Drama is assessed by three exams one will take place in year 12 and the other two at the end of year 13.

Progression Options

You could continue to study to degree level in areas such as drama, theatre studies, performing arts or performance support. The course would also provide grounding for students wishing to pursue careers in drama, literature, script-writing, performing arts, broadcast media, and technical or media industries. Additionally, the confidence and communication skills developed from studying drama are useful for a wide range of professionals including: lawyers, barristers, doctors, journalists and teachers.

Awarding Body

Edexcel

Modules include:

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| Component 1 Devising 40% | You will plan, research and devise your own performance and document your process through a portfolio: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpreting, creating and developing a devised piece from one key extract from a performance text and applying the methods of one practitioner. • A group performance of the devised piece. • Analysing and evaluating the creative process and devised performance. | Internally assessed and externally moderated |
| Component 2 Text in Performance 20% | You will complete a performance exam of the two components below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A monologue or a duologue performance/design realisation from one key extract from one performance text. • A group performance/design realisation of one key extract from a different performance text. | Externally assessed by a visiting examiner |
| Component 3 Theatre Makers in Practice 40% | You will complete a written exam based on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A live theatre evaluation. • Page to stage: realisation of a complete performance text. • Interpreting one complete performance text, in light of one practitioner for a contemporary audience. | Written exam: 2 hours and 30 minutes |