

DRAMA



Course content

*Assessment:
A Level Drama
and Theatre*

*Assessment:
AS Drama and
Theatre*

We are very pleased to be able to offer two brand new qualifications from the start of the academic year 2022-23. We have changed to the exam board "EDUQAS" which is part of the WJEC.

The choice of the qualifications are:

- A Level Drama & Theatre
- AS Drama & Theatre

A Level Drama & Theatre Overview

This would be taken as an A Level option as one of your three (or four with prior permission) A level subjects.

This is a two year course and is broken down as follows:

Component 1 - Theatre Workshop - internally assessed; externally moderated - 20% of qualification.

- You will work collaboratively in the creation, development and performance of a piece of theatre based on a reinterpretation of a text. The text will be selected by the class teacher.
- You will use a theatre practitioner's or a theatre company's methods as an influence guided carefully by the class teacher.
- Your performance will be assessed along with some associated written work.

Component 2 - Text in Action - coursework - externally assessed by a visiting examiner - 40% of qualification

- Two Text extracts studied and performed in different styles - known as "reinterpretation"
- This will be followed by an evaluation report.

Component 3 - Text in Performance- written examination- 2 hours 30 minutes- 40% of qualification

- Two set texts "open book" - clean copy in the examination
- One pre-1956 and one post-1956
- Plus Section C - questions on a pre-released extract from "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time"

AS Drama

This would be studied as a two-year course, as a fourth option in addition to your three A Levels.

Component 1: Performance Workshop

- 2 pieces of theatre from 2 extracts from 2 different texts. 1 is a re-imagining/reinterpretation of the set extract from appendix A.
- 1 must use techniques of a practitioner (on set text)
- Groups of 2-5 can be different groups for both.

Text choices:

- Different from component 2 text (they study 3 texts total)
- 1 extract must be from the list supplied, the other can be from any text.
- 10-15minute extracts.

5 stages: Researching, Developing, Reflecting, Realising, Evaluating

Component 2: Text in Context

Hedda Gabler, Henrik Ibsen

- the theatrical processes and practices involved in interpreting and performing theatre.
- how conventions, forms and techniques are used in drama and live theatre to create meaning.
- how creative and artistic choices influence how meaning is communicated to an audience.
- how performance texts are constructed to be performed.
- how performance texts are informed by their social, cultural and historical contexts, and are interpreted and performed for an audience.

You do not need to have studied GCSE Drama to consider A level or AS Drama & Theatre; you just have to bring your enthusiasm for a creative subject and a keen mind to study in-depth the context & performance of set texts. Students enjoy the fact that drama entails working creatively and in pairs or groups and you will discover that there is a lot of satisfaction to be had out of presenting your work to an audience, whether you are interpreting the work of a successful playwright or devising and presenting your own original ideas.

At whichever level you choose you need to be prepared to:

- To work collaboratively.
- A willingness to study independently.
- To be self-motivated.
- To be enthusiastic and energetic in your approach.
- A strong work-ethic and a willingness to experiment with new ideas!

These new specifications offer the best chance for our 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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