



Year 12/13 Drama and Theatre Curriculum

Curriculum Leader: Mr S Scotchford

What will your child be studying?

A Level in Drama and Theatre is a course designed to be a **practical, engaging** and **creative** course. It is a linear two-year course designed to build on GCSE drama at KS4.

It will provide you with opportunities to:

- interrogate drama and the work of others
- explore a range of drama as a practical art form
- work independently to create your own performances making informed artistic choices.

The course demands creativity and communication of ideas in both a practical and written sense. Students will take part in practical explorations and workshops, performances, theatre visits and written tasks. They will develop analytical and evaluation skills and work to become an informed critic. Throughout the course students will develop communication skills, knowledge of practitioners and plays and devising skills.

What will be the Key Assessment(s) during this course?

The A Level is made up of **four** components.

- There are two non-exam assessments (60% of the overall qualification)
- There are two examined assessments (40% of the overall qualification)

Theory and practical work will be integrated throughout the course and all texts studied will be explored practically.

Component 1: Practitioners in Practice - 40% 120 marks

- Creation of devised performance based on and influenced by the work of others.
- This must include:
 - The study of two practitioners
 - The study/exploration of an extract from a play
- In addition to the performance, you will complete an accompanying research report and portfolio with evidence of the process you went through creating your performance.
- **40 marks:** Devised performance
- **80 marks:** Research report and portfolio
- **Internally assessed, externally moderated**

Component 2: Exploring and Performing Texts - 20% 60 marks

- You will perform an extract from a play to a visiting examiner during Year 13
- Performance lengths will vary according to the size of the group. The time range is between 15 and 45 minutes
- You can work in a group of up to 8 performers
- You will complete an accompanying concept pro forma document which outlines your intentions for the performance
- **10 marks:** Interpretation of the text and creating an intention for performance
- **50 marks:** For the presentation of theatrical skills in the final performances
- **Externally assessed**

Component 3 & 4: Written 40%

Paper A: Exploring/Analysing Performance

- 60 marks 20% 2hr 15 mins
- **Section A:** students explore practically using extracts from 2 different texts from a set list based on a chosen theme given by the exam board
- **Section B:** Review a performance they have seen

Paper B: Deconstructing Texts for Performance

- 60 marks 20% 1hr 45 mins
- 2 questions
- Students will study a set text in detail. Questions will be about directorial decisions for the text and assesses students' knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is created and developed for performance.
- In question 1, you will be given an extract from a set text you have studied from a list set by the exam board.
- The question will ask you to annotate how you would direct a specific aspect of that theme
- This question is worth 30 marks
- The second question will focus on the process of creating and developing a performance as well as the performance characteristics of the text
- This question is worth 30 marks

No text in the exam

How can you help?

Extra rehearsals are an expectation outside of lessons at A Level and further research into areas of study/set texts/practitioners is extremely important. Any help you can give to support these extra requirements would be very beneficial. Regular contact to keep teachers informed of any absences/commitments that may result in missing lessons/rehearsals etc is helpful. It is always beneficial to keep a dialogue going about what is being worked on and asking your child to describe/explain plots/themes/ideas/techniques in their own words will help to embed knowledge and understanding as well as strengthen their written skills as they will be able to communicate ideas more successfully. Students will also be given feedback logs that you can check for comments on progress and targets set etc.

Attending plays, watching live streaming of performances and watching a wide variety of practitioner's work/styles/genres is a real advantage when students are developing their knowledge and understanding.

Extracurricular drama – involvement in shows either on stage, as a director or behind the scenes.

Communicate with the department and your son/daughter's teacher.