



Drama

Exam Board: Edexcel

Contact teacher: Mrs V Strachan

Why study Drama?

A-level Drama and Theatre Studies is a stimulating and vibrant subject where you will have the opportunity to explore aspects of drama and theatre within play texts and practitioners and combine that with your theoretical knowledge and understanding. If you are considering this subject as an A level, you will probably already enjoy the experience of live theatre (observing and performing). As part of the course you will be given the opportunity to watch a variety of live theatre. You will also take part in a range of workshops with professional practitioners and develop your own work for performance. The course also provides students with many transferable skills that are desirable in many different careers.

Course details

Year 1

Component 1 Devising	Involves creating a devised performance from a given stimulus in relation to key theatre practitioners. A portfolio of evidence is submitted relating to the rehearsal process and the final performance.	40% of the qualification Coursework and internally examined performance
Component 3 Theatre Makers in Practice	Begin work and study of written examination. Theatre visits, study of two complete texts, test exam papers focusing on realisation for performance and practitioners influence.	see percentage for Component 3 Final exam in year 2

Year 2

Component 2 Text in Performance	A group performance or design realisation of one key extract from a performance text. A monologue or duologue performance or design realisation from one key extract of a different performance.	20% of the qualification Coursework
Component 3 Theatre Makers in Practice	Practical exploration and study of one complete text exploring the realisation for performance. Live theatre evaluation. Practical exploration of a second text in light of a chosen practitioner with a focus on it being reimagined for a modern audience.	40% of the qualification Written examination

How is the course taught and assessed?

The course is taught through a mixture of practical and academic lessons.

Entry Requirements

GCSE drama is not essential, but if taken, you need a Level 5. If you have not taken GCSE then you will have obvious enthusiasm for the subject and have acquired experience through school, youth theatre or a community drama group. You will need a Level 5 in English Language. You will also be required to prepare and deliver a short monologue.

You will be expected to be available after College hours and occasional weekends for rehearsals and theatre visits. You will need enthusiasm, commitment and the stamina to contribute positively to the group throughout the rehearsal period and to see a project through to the final performance.

Career routes and popular combinations

It fits well with subjects like English, History, Media, Psychology, Philosophy and Art as they all require a similar set of skills.

You can take your Drama A level further to degree level or use the transferable skills gained to aid other employment options.

Possible employment routes where Drama and Theatre Studies can be specifically relevant:

- Actor
- Community arts worker
- Drama therapist
- Theatre practitioner (within a theatre company such as Big Brum, Frantic Assembly, DV8)
- Theatre director
- Arts administrator
- Broadcast presenter
- Theatre stage manager
- Lighting technician
- Sound engineer
- Special effects and make-up design.