



**DRAMA**  
& THEATRE STUDIES

# A-Level Course Information



**Qualification:** Advanced Level Drama & Theatre Studies

**Exam Board:** AQA

**Subject Leader:** Mr J. Frost

## Entry Requirements:

**Minimum Entry Requirements:**

5 x 5s

4 in English and Maths

**Subject Specific Entry Requirements:**

6 in Drama if taken at GCSE

## Why study Drama & Theatre Studies?

Drama and Theatre Studies course aims to develop students' interest and enjoyment in drama and theatre both as participants and as informed members of an audience, fostering an enthusiasm for and critical appreciation of the subject. It is dedicated to providing a creative platform where the students develop their physical, social and emotional skills. It considers theatre from the perspective of the director, the actor and the designer; and is taught through experiential and practical lessons allowing us to thrive as an exciting, highly creative and enjoyable subject area.

## What can I do with Drama & Theatre Studies after A-Level?

The list is endless. Many students will take a degree in Theatre, Drama, Film, Media or Performing Arts. Others will gain entry into a specialist drama college such as Central School or LAMDA. There are also the opportunities to work in technical design and production in theatre, film or television.

You only have to see the credits of a play to see how many people work on a production in different capacities or work in newspapers, magazines or journalism in general. University statistics show drama graduates have one of the highest employment rates because the subject develops self-confidence and produces well rounded, articulate individuals with the ability to adapt to challenging situations.

## Drama & Theatre Extras

A-Level Drama and Theatre Studies enables you to see a variety of professional productions; as well as meeting and attending workshops led by practitioners from various theatre companies. In the last few years our students have seen productions at theatre such as the National Theatre, Regents Park Theatre, the Hammersmith Lyric and Cambridge Arts; and worked practically with the likes of RADA, Cheek by Jowl and Frantic Assembly.

To cover the cost of texts, trips and workshops we ask for a contribution of £150 for the course. Application for assistance with the funding of essential costs may be made in confidence through the 16-19 bursary fund.

## What will I study?

The lessons are spent exploring plays and theatre styles practically; through which you will develop your own performance skills in a range of genres. The course is delivered in a purpose-built performance studio which has a full recording and editing suite—this space also houses exam performances and sixth form led productions produced by the enrichment theatre company 'Etc.'.

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** - 40% of the A-level (3 hour written paper)

Section A : Drama through the ages - a single text is studied and the students answer one question on it - with the focus of the question being about interpretation of the play from the perspective of a performer, designer or director.

Section B : 20th and 21st century drama - you answer two questions on a given extract from one further script studied during the course. The focus of which determines your interpretation of the text into performance.

Section C : Live theatre production : you answer one question (from a choice) on a single live theatrical experience as an audience member and demonstrate your understanding of how theatre makers collaborate to create theatre, and communicate meaning to an audience.

**Component 2: Creating Original Drama** - 30% of the A-level (practical paper)

This is a practical component in which you are assessed on their ability to create and develop ideas to communicate meaning as part of the theatre making process, making connections between dramatic theory and practice and apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance.

For this component, you must complete two assessment tasks:

Produce an individual 'Working Notebook' documenting the devising process

Contribute to a devised, group performance (influenced by the work and methodologies of a specific theatre practitioner)

**Component 3: Making Theatre** - 30% of the A-level (practical paper)

This is a practical component where you are assessed on your ability to apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance and evaluate your own work.

You are required to practically explore and interpret three key extracts each from a different play and complete two assessment tasks:

Formally present Extract 3 to an audience (applying work and methodologies of a specific theatre practitioner)

Produce an individual Reflective report analyzing and evaluating their theatrical interpretation of all three key extracts studied.