

# DRAMA & THEATRE

EXAM BOARD: PEARSON, EDEXCEL

## Why study Drama & Theatre?

The A-Level in Drama and Theatre will give you the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of how theatre works. You will have opportunities to be a performer, theatre maker and a critical audience member. You will be required to work practically with your peers, but will also need to spend time working independently researching material and putting your knowledge and understanding on paper. As Drama students you must be prepared to put in your own time; watching theatre productions, carrying out research, learning lines and rehearsing for performances.

**This course provides opportunities to develop your creativity, really sharpen performance skills and give a good grounding in the technical aspects of drama and theatre work. We'll expose you to the professional world of Theatre and will see you grow in confidence, imagination and allow you to demonstrate how collaborative working creates great outcomes for you, your colleagues and the wider audience.**

## Subject Specification Outline & Exam Format:

### Component 1-Devising:

40% of the A-Level and Internally Assessed

Two parts:

- 1) a portfolio (60 marks)
- 2) the devised performance/design realisation (20 marks)

### Content Overview:

- Devise an original performance piece
- Use one key extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli
- Centre choice of text and practitioner
- Performer or designer routes available

### Component 2-Text in Performance:

20% of the A Level and Internally Assessed

- 1) Group performance/design realisation (36 marks)
- 2) Monologue or duologue/design realisation (24 marks)

### Content overview:

- A group performance/design realisation of one key extract from a performance text
- A monologue or duologue performance/design realisation from one key extract from a different performance text
- Centre choice of performance texts

## Component 3 - Theatre Makers in Practice:

Written examination: 2 hrs 30 mins 40% of the A-Level

### Section A: Live Theatre Evaluation (20 marks)

**Section B:** Page to Stage: Realising a Performance Text (36 marks)

**Section C:** Interpreting a Performance Text (24 marks)

### Content overview:

- Live theatre evaluation – choice of performance
- Practical exploration and study of a complete performance text – focusing on how this can be realised for performance
- Practical exploration and interpretation of another complete performance text, in light of a chosen theatre practitioner – focusing on how this text could be reimaged for a contemporary audience
- Centre choice of 15 performance texts from two lists on the next page
- Choice of eight practitioners.

## Self Study Requirements:

Students will be required to make use of available studio space and rehearse their performance pieces outside of lesson times, this will include after school slots. Students will be expected to be proactive and independently watch and examine set works, bringing ideas and opinions to lessons.

## Progression Pathways:

Drama and Theatre Studies naturally leads to a variety of courses at all the major universities where you can select routes with an academic, technical or performance focus. As a subject it provides a good complement to the Social Sciences, English, Arts, Humanities and Law and along the way you will develop many transferable skills, including, planning and organisation, team work, communication and critical analysis. Jobs are equally diverse. Subjects often paired with Drama & Theatre are Dance, English Literature, History, Sociology, Psychology.

