

A Level Drama & Theatre

Head of Department: Mrs H Glen

New course
for 2026!

The arts matter because they enrich our lives, foster community connections, stimulate economic growth, and enhance our understanding of the human experience...

Through this lens, A Level Drama & Theatre offers an exciting and intellectually rewarding experience that combines academic depth with creative expression. Students develop strong analytical, evaluative, and written skills through the study of plays, practitioners, and performance theory - skills that complement subjects such as English, History, and Modern Foreign Languages. Alongside this, the course nurtures creativity, confidence, teamwork, and communication through practical performance and design work. These qualities are highly valued by universities and employers alike. Beyond performance, Drama & Theatre opens doors to a wide range of careers, including arts management, directing, writing, teaching, event management, media production, marketing, and even law or public relations - any field where creativity, empathy, and articulate communication are essential.

Choosing Drama & Theatre at A Level means gaining both academic strength and life skills that last well beyond the classroom. The study of Drama will provide a unique educational opportunity to *'Consider the World and your place in it'* (Bertolt Brecht)

The Course

Component 1: Devised - Internally Assessed/Externally Moderated (40% of the qualification)

- 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.
- Students submit a written a portfolio of evidence between 2500–3000 words or recorded/verbal evidence or -can be a combination of handwritten/typed evidence and recorded/verbal evidence

Component 2: Text in Performance - Examiner Assessed Performance (20% of the qualification)

- 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.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice - Written Exam: 2h30m (40% of the qualification)

Section A: Live Theatre Evaluation (20 marks)

One extended response question from a choice of two - analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance seen in light of a given statement.

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

Two extended response questions based on an unseen extract from the performance studied.

Demonstrate how you, as theatre makers, intend to realise the extract in performance.

Section C: Interpreting a Performance Text (24 marks)

One extended response question from a choice of two based on an unseen named section from your chosen performance text. You will demonstrate how your re-imagined production concept will communicate ideas to a contemporary audience.

When was the last time you were encouraged to form and convey your own unique perspective to others, without simply stating the 'right' answer?

Frankie Richards, University of Cambridge (2019-22)

