



Drama & Theatre Studies

Advanced Level



Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade C/5 or above at GCSE English. Drama GCSE is not essential, although enjoyment of aspects of performance is necessary.

'A student who would suit and enjoy Theatre Studies is a creative thinker, enjoys practical tasks, works well in a group and relishes being part of a creative process. They may also have a real interest in the arts and popular culture such as film, music or dance as well as theatre and be willing to experiment with and analyse text. Whilst it clearly suits performers, lovers of subjects such as language, history and psychology may also enjoy the course.'

A-Level Theatre Studies

This course, that is both academic and practical, consists of three units which allow students to devise their own new piece of theatre, perform extracts of two published plays, study two complete plays and watch a live theatre performance for evaluation.

Component 1 – Devising

40% of Year 2 Grade (Spring/Summer Yr12)

Devise an original performance piece.

- Use one key extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli.
- We choose the text and practitioner.
- Performer or designer routes available.
- Students produce a portfolio which forms two thirds of the marks available. This can be in written form, as a verbal recorded presentation or a mixture of the two.
- A third of the marks available are for the quality of the performance or design.

Component 2 – Text in Performance

20% of Year 2 Grade (Autumn Y13)

Perform in or design for two separate live productions of extracts of published plays.

- 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.
- We choose the performance texts.
- Externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

Component 3 – Theatre Makers in Practice

40% of Year 2 Grade (Summer Y13)

A written exam lasting 2 hours 30 minutes.

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

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