

Course Information – Drama

This GCSE course is a natural progression for those who enjoyed learning the subject in KS3. It allows students to develop their performing and devising skills as well as being able to develop their understanding of how theatre is created for an audience.

Course Content

Students advance skills learnt within KS3 in the creation, development and performances of pieces of theatre. They also study various Drama practitioners and apply the knowledge of these within their performances and creative workings. They will study in detail at least one play both practically and theoretically using this knowledge within an exam setting. The course also allows for visits to live theatre in order to perceptively analyse the productions they have seen. Students also work in a variety of group sizes and they are heavily involved in the devising and development of all performed pieces.

Assessment

Component 1 – Devising Theatre – 40% – internally assessed, externally moderated.

Students devise a piece of theatre working as a small theatre company and perform their final pieces to an audience in response to a stimulus set by the exam board.

Alongside this, they produce a portfolio of the journey of their work including an evaluation of the final performance.

Component 2 – Performance of a text – 20% – externally assessed.

Students perform two extracts from one text that they have studied and perform the piece to a visiting examiner.

Component 3 – Interpreting Theatre – 40% – externally assessed

Students study practically in detail 'Hard To Swallow' by Mark Wheeler. They use this knowledge gained to answer a series of questions in a written exam. They also complete a live theatre review (within the exam) which gives them the chance to analyse and evaluate a piece of theatre they have seen throughout the course.

Future Opportunities

This course is a perfect springboard for those who would like to study Drama or Theatre Studies at A-Level. Students can also use this course to access a Performing Arts course at college. This can lead students into a career in the Arts or teaching perhaps.

