

## OVERVIEW

To gain entry onto the Theatre Studies A level course students ideally you need GCSE Drama and English at a grade 5 or above and/or performance experience. Important attributes are enthusiasm and commitment. To do well you must be creative, analytical, inquisitive and explorative. Some students have also successfully used this subject as a way of boosting their confidence and communication skills.

## PROGRESSION ROUTES

Students who have studied A level Theatre Studies with us have gone on to a range of next steps, including Performing Arts, English Literature, and teaching courses. There are a wide range of degree courses that many of our former students have gone on to, including those at universities such as Goldsmiths, LIPA, Guildhall School of Music and the University of Birmingham.

# Drama and Theatre Studies

## A LEVEL (AQA)

The emphasis in this course is on drama and theatre in practice. You learn to be a practitioner of this art form. All the work you do is either practical or linked to practical. There are 3 progressive units for A Level.

Candidates will gain knowledge and understanding of theatre practice through their own engagement with the medium as both participant and informed audience member. Candidates will develop performance and/or production skills appropriate to the creation and realisation of drama and theatre.

At A Level, the specification provides candidates with the opportunity to develop skills and demonstrate a more advanced level of performance and/or production skills alongside the ability to think independently, make judgements and refine their work in the light of research. They will also demonstrate the ability to analyse the ways in which different performance and production elements are brought together to create theatre.

### COMPONENT 1

Drama and Theatre (Written exam) 40% of A Level

- Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre
- Study of two set plays, one chosen from List A, one chosen from List B
- Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers

### COMPONENT 2

Creating Original Drama (Practical) 30% of A Level

Performance of devised drama piece: 30% of A Level

- A devised piece of theatre based on a chosen style and practitioner
- The assessment also incorporates candidates' preparatory and developmental work alongside working notebook.

*Internally assessed and externally moderated*

### COMPONENT 3

Making theatre (practical) 30% of A Level

- Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts (Extract 1, 2 and 3) each taken from a different play
- Methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied to Extract 3
- Extract 3 is to be performed as a final assessed piece
- Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts

*Externally moderated by AQA*

### WEBLINK

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/drama/a-level/drama-and-theatre-7262>