

Drama and Theatre

A LEVEL - EDUQAS

What are the aims of the course?

The Eduqas A Level Drama and Theatre offers a practical and challenging course of study which encourages learners to:

- Develop creativity and independence
- Develop and apply an informed, analytical framework for making, performing, interpreting and understanding drama and theatre
- Understand the place of relevant theoretical research in informing the processes and practices involved in creating theatre and the place of practical exploration in informing theoretical knowledge of drama and theatre
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of how the social, cultural and historical contexts of performance texts have influenced the development of drama and theatre
- Understand the practices used in twenty-first century theatre making
- Experience a range of opportunities to create theatre, both published text-based and devised work
- Participate, as both a theatre maker and as an audience member, in live theatre
- Understand and experience the collaborative relationship between various roles within theatre
- Develop and demonstrate a range of theatre making skills
- Adopt safe working practices as a theatre maker
- Analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others

What does it involve?

A Level Drama and Theatre is designed to promote an excellent balance between practical theatre making and the theoretical understanding of drama and theatre. This stimulating and engaging course of study encourages learners to make connections between dramatic theory and their own practice. Lessons will be both practical and theoretical, and during the course there is an option to be assessed as either an actor or a technical candidate – so students who are interested in lighting and sound design, set design, costume or stage make-up are also welcomed.

How is it assessed?

Component One

Performance Workshop (20% of A Level)

1. Practical performance examination*
2. A reinterpretation of a text
3. A creative log

During Year 12, students will rehearse a 'reinterpretation' of scenes from a chosen text which will be performed in front of a live audience. They will also prepare an accompanying creative log which will document the development of their work.

All students will learn and develop key Drama skills. To aid their learning, all students will be invited to see as much live theatre as possible throughout the course at a variety of venues in the North West and beyond.

Component Two

Text in Action (40% of A Level)

- Practical performance examination*
- A process and evaluation report

Students will rehearse and perform scenes from a set text which will be performed in front of a live audience. They will also devise new and exciting drama based on a theme relating to the set text.

Component Three

Text in Performance (40% of A Level)

- External examination
- 2 hours 30 minutes written paper

There are three elements to this examination:

1. Textual Study of a Pre-1956 play from a set list
2. Textual Study of a Post-1956 play from a set list
3. A response to a question on an extract from, 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time.'

For each section, the text will be studied from the point of view of director, actor and designer. Theatrical conventions and social contexts will also be explored.

**For each practical performance, students take responsibility for all areas of the production including lighting and sound, costume and set design. There is an option to be assessed on either acting or as a technical/design candidate.*

Are there any specific entry requirements?

While it is useful if GCSE Drama has been studied, or alternative drama experience has been gained, this is not a pre-requisite. Beginners are accepted, and can progress quickly, as long as they approach the subject with energy and enthusiasm.

Why is it a useful qualification?

Through the study of A Level Drama and Theatre, a subject which is both practical and theoretical, students will develop their skills of creativity, performance, analysis and essay-writing. The course can help to build a student's confidence, improve inter-personal skills and develop leadership qualities.

