

Subject:

A Level Drama & Theatre Studies



Course Units and Content:

Drama continues to be a popular subject where students excel. Not only do students develop their skills as practitioners and performers in preparation for further study, but the cross-curricular links in regard to textual analysis enable and empower students to succeed in other areas of their school career, from both an understanding of politics and political and social structure, to their understanding of English literature.

Component 1: Devising

- 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.

Component 2: Text in Performance

- 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
- Centre choice of performance texts

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice Written examination: 2½ hours

- Live theatre evaluation – choice of performance
- Practical exploration and study of a complete performance text – focusing on how this can be realised for performance
- Practical exploration and interpretation of another complete performance text, in light of a chosen theatre practitioner – focusing on how this text could be reimagined for a contemporary audience
- Choice of eight practitioners
- Students are allowed to bring in theatre evaluation notes of up to a maximum of 500 word and the performance text they have studied. They, as theatre makers, intend to realise the extract in performance
- Students answer from the perspective of a performer and a designer.

Assessment:

- Component 1: 40% of the qualification 80 marks
Component 2: 20% of the qualification 60 marks
Component 3: 40% of the qualification 80 marks

Progression and Careers:

Actor, Stage Manager, Arts Administrator, Drama Teacher, Drama Therapist, TV Production Assistant/Presenter/Producer, Radio Presenter, Director, Script Writer, Theatre Technician, Creative Designer.

Student views:

“Drama is the place where I can explore spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues and plays as a drama practitioner. Not only does it develop my understanding as a performer through the practical exploration of plays, it is the one place where I can be anyone I want to be. Whether you have desire to work within the performing arts industry one day, or whether you just love drama and practical work, it has something for everyone.”

Where have students from Sandy Secondary School gone on to?

Many of our students go on to study a BA (HONS) course in Acting, Drama & Theatre Studies or Performing Arts. Several have been accepted into top drama schools such as the Central School of Speech and Drama. Drama is a subject that develops well rounded and creative students, a quality that is sought by many top universities in the country. As a result we have also had students leave to take university degrees in vocations varying from Midwifery to Natural Sciences. Some have then gone on to that Masters Degrees and Doctorates.

Examination Board: Edexcel

Curriculum Leader:

Mrs K Quinn

