



# Drama & Theatre

Examination Board: AQA  
Specification: Advanced GCE 7262  
Advanced Subsidiary GCE 7261

## Why should I study Drama & Theatre?

To develop confidence and the ability to think creatively to solve problems, both independently and with others; to develop a wider interest in, and appreciation of, acting, performing and directing; to develop analytical and evaluative skills.

## What will I learn about?

You will study at least two full plays and take part in practical exploration of at least two different theatre practitioners. You will also experience live professional theatre and learn how to analyse the performers, directors and designers. You will perform monologues, duologues and work in larger groups and work towards performances of both published plays and devised, original drama. The set text list includes *Antigone*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* and *Metamorphosis*.

## How will I be taught?

Your teachers will guide and lead you in a range of workshops covering acting skills and theatre practitioner's styles. You will research and develop your characters for performance and learn how to evaluate your own work and that of others; you will rehearse and perform both scripted plays and devised improvisations; you will have stimulating and interesting whole-class and small group discussion. The key to success in Drama and Theatre at A level is a willingness to have a go, resilience to keep going when the pressure is on, and an enthusiasm for drama which will lead you to read around the subjects, plays and practitioners studied on the course

## Application beyond school:

A level Drama and Theatre Studies is a good grounding for continuing the study drama or performance at University or Drama School, but is also suited for those intending to pursue careers in Law, Journalism, Media & Communication Studies, Advertising, Public Relations or Teaching. Many Universities, regardless of the Degree you wish to study for, look for students with a wide range of interests and expertise, as this shows you are a well-rounded learner. Drama and Theatre Studies students are always more confident and happy to speak in public or in interview situations than some of their colleagues. Recent research has shown that so-called "soft skills" have contributed over £88 Billion to the UK economy in the last few years, and an A Level in Drama and Theatre is an excellent way of demonstrating that you possess these skills.

## Continued....

*Love of Learning, pride in diversity, excellence for all*



# KING EDWARD VI

Handsworth School For Girls

## Assessment Format:

Level	Component	Requirements	Duration	Marks
A Level	1 – Drama and Theatre	Written Exam with 3 sections. Section A questions on a set text from the perspective of a performer and director or designer. Section B questions on a contrasting set text from the perspective of a director and a performer or designer. Section C is an Evaluation of a piece of live theatre seen during the course. Texts are allowed in the exam.	3 hours Year 13 Externally assessed	80 marks 40% of A Level
A Level	2 – Creating Original Drama	A performance of devised theatre, created in the style of a recognised theatre practitioner. A working notebook of 3000 words.	Year 13 Internally assessed, externally moderated	60 marks 30% of A Level
A Level	3 – Making Theatre	A Practical exploration of three extracts from three contrasting plays, using the approach of a recognised theatre practitioner. Extract 3 is performed for a live audience. A Reflective Report of 3000 words, written on the work done in preparation of the performance and research and rehearsal work carried out during the Component.	Year 13 externally assessed	60 marks 30% of A Level
AS	1 – Interpreting Drama	Written Exam with two sections. Section A is a 2-part question on an extract from a set play. Section B is an analysis of a live performance. Answers are given from the perspective of a performer and director or designer. Texts are allowed in the exam.	Year 12 externally assessed	80 marks 40% of AS
AS	2 – Process and Performance	A Practical exploration of two extracts from two contrasting plays, studied in the context of a recognised theatre practitioner. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> extract is performed for a live audience and assessed. A portfolio of evidence of the process is also assessed, focusing on the process, with analysis and evaluation of the work. Groups must be between 2 and 6 students for the performances.	Year 12 internally assessed, externally moderated	60 marks 60% of AS

### Are there any special requirements?

- Desire to perform in front of an audience, enthusiasm for live performance and the ability to write critically and analytically.
- G.C.S.E. grades (A\* or A) in Drama.

The capacity to “leave your ego at the door”, be brave, and laugh at yourself on occasion.

*Love of Learning, pride in diversity, excellence for all*