



# Drama and Theatre A Level



“Drama is like a break from other subjects where you can actually enjoy the learning”

“Every time I check my timetable and see that I have Drama, it honestly makes my day”

“I think it makes you stand out, the analytical skills needed will help with my Oxbridge application”

“I was worried about theory as I thought I would struggle, however we get support and I really enjoy it.”

Our students say...

“Russell Group Universities love Drama too”

“Perfect balance of theory and practical in a manageable way”

“I come to PQA, so have a grasp of the good facilities; there are more opportunities here than other schools”

“It’s a tight knit family”

“Taking Drama was definitely the best decision”

“The teachers are incredibly encouraging and give you the space to express and develop your acting skills”

“Drama gave me a really good support network in GCSE and it’s the same in A Level”

“It’s great fun and will help me to do the courses that interest me at University”

Our students say...

“It’s an escape from other subjects”

“It allows for people to be collaborative and creative minded without much stress.”

“Essay subjects open a lot of doors...this is an essay subject but with practical”

“The teachers are legendary and so supportive”



# A Level Drama and Theatre

Taught by  
Mrs Kalinowski  
Mr Ging

AQA Specification

# How the course works...

- 60% coursework (including practical examinations) and 40% written exam
- 3 major components across 2 years
- Study is in the perspective of Actors', Directors', Designers' as well as the Audience.

# Fundamental Skills

- The fundamental skills explored within A Level revolve around:
  - Research
  - Interpretation
  - Creativity
  - Analysis and Evaluation

# Component 1



## Drama and Theatre – 40% A Level (3 hour exam)

Section A: one question (from a choice) on one of the set plays from List A (25 marks)  
(Drama through the ages)

### **Henrik Ibsen- Hedda Gabler**

Section B: two part question on a given extract from one of the set plays (30 marks)

### **Timberlake Wertenbaker- Our Country's Good**

Section C: one question on the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production (25 marks)



# Component Two

## Creating original Drama 30% A level (marked internally)

Can be assessed as:

- Performer
- Lighting designer
- Sound designer
- Set designer
- Costume designer
- Puppet designer
- Director



Performance of a devised drama  
influenced by a practitioner (20 marks)



Working notebook (40 marks)



# Component Three



## Making theatre 30% A Level (examined by AQA)

For this component students must practically explore (workshop) and interpret three key extracts each from a different play and complete two assessment tasks:

1. Students will formally present Extract 3 to an audience and an external examiner (40 marks)
2. Students will produce an individual Reflective Report analysing and evaluating their theatrical interpretation of all three key extracts studied (20 marks)

For the performance of Extract 3 students must apply the work and methodologies of one of the prescribed theatre practitioners.

# Examples of student work

The following clips are form Year 12 and Year 13 performances.

Each as a prescribed practitioner.

# Entry Requirements

- GCSE Drama at a grade 5 or above
- All students must have an interest in Drama and Theatre Studies
- All students must achieve a grade 5 at GCSE English
- Pupils must be prepared to rehearse and see live theatre **in their own time**

# Technical Theatre

- All students have to study theatre from a designers perspective but some pupils choose to specialise in technical theatre. The school are happy to offer this option although we only have the required facilities for students to specialise in Directing, Costume, Mask, Set Design, Lighting or Sound.
- If students do chose to specialise in technical theatre they must understand the acting process as they will be asked to comment on acting styles and techniques in coursework and examinations.
- Technical theatre students may be asked to work independently of their peers or with outside practitioners and teachers.

# Why study Drama and Theatre?

Although a different examination board- the principles are the same as AQA



Drama isn't just for future movie stars....

# Why Drama and Theatre?

## Skills used in Drama and Theatre:

- Acting skills
- Design skills
- Directorial skills
- Interpretive skills
- Creative, devising and improvisation skills
- Analytical, evaluative and critical skills
- Communication skills
- Inter-personal and group working skills

## What can I do after the course?

- Degree level courses in Performing Arts, Drama and Media Studies
- Acting, Designing, Directing, Journalism, Teaching and many more.

# Russell Group universities

*‘Drama and Theatre A Level is an excellent subject to facilitate progression in more diverse career paths. In a recent study, it was found that 100% of students who applied to a range of Russell Group Universities who had studied Drama and Theatre at A Level were offered places of their Law degrees.’*



# Other bits and pieces!

- Theatre trips
- Links with theatres/practitioners/theatre companies
- Outstanding Drama facilities at FP
- Opportunities with professionals
- A practical course

ANY QUESTIONS?

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO  
CHAT TO OUR  
CURRENT A LEVEL  
DRAMA STUDENTS

