



DRAMA & THEATRE

STAFF

Mrs C Hellewell
Miss K Rattigan
Miss P Gibb

SUPPORT

You will receive the best support from the Drama Department and we operate an open door policy. A level and GCSE students have priority access to the studio. We offer 1:1 and small group sessions for support with written and practical work and encourage you to act as a TA in lower school classes or in supporting extra-curricular activities. We also run a specialised company who devise new work.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to A Level Drama & Theatre! We study the EdExcel syllabus, with the core skills developed being; the ability to recognise and understand the interrelationship between performer, designer and director, the understanding that texts and extracts studied may represent a range of social, historical and cultural contexts, the ability to analyse and evaluate your work and the work of others and the ability to understand how performance texts can be interpreted and performed.

In term 1, you will perform or design for a monologue from any published play as a baseline assessment. You will also be introduced to the contemporary set text studied through practical exploration and workshop activities, in addition to analysing and evaluating live theatre.

WHAT TO BRING FOR YOUR FIRST LESSON

In every lesson, you should wear appropriate clothing for movement. You should also ensure that you have a notebook, pens, a pencil and highlighters. You will be set an early induction task to perform or design for a monologue. As part of the bridging work over Summer, it is useful to begin the process of sourcing an appropriate piece. Further details will be put on the website and Teams.



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CLASSWORK, HOMEWORK AND INDEPENDENT STUDY

Class work in Drama and Theatre is varied. Lessons will involve practical exploration of the set texts, workshops on theatre practitioners, watching, analysing and evaluating recorded live theatre, creating and developing devised work, approaching exam questions, research and so on. It is a very challenging, yet varied and exciting course. Independent study often involves activities such as research tasks, writing rehearsal logs, flipped learning and independent rehearsal.

RESOURCES

You will be provided free of charge with copies of the set texts, however, we suggest purchasing your own copies as you can annotate them. Our set text is *Colder Than Here* by Laura Wade (Oberon Modern Plays) and is available on Amazon. We will also give you an A Level Study Guide for use throughout the course.

Other useful reading materials to get you started include any practitioner guides as well as:

- Edexcel A level Drama and Theatre Student Book and ActiveBook (Edexcel A Level Drama 2016) Paperback – 29 July 2016
- Theatre in Practice: A Student's Handbook Paperback – 20 Aug. 2018
- by Nick O'Brien
- Unmasking Theatre Design: A Designer's Guide to Finding Inspiration and Cultivating Creativity Paperback – 22 Jan. 2015
- Handbook of Set Design (Crowood Sports Guide) Paperback – 23 Feb. 2006
- Creative and Successful Set Designs: How to Make Imaginative Stage Sets with Limited Resources Paperback – 19 Oct. 2018
- Stage Lighting Design: The Art, the Craft, the Life Paperback – Illustrated, 8 Aug. 2008
- Stage Lighting Design: Second Edition (Crowood Theatre Companions)