

# Drama and Theatre: A-level (Awarding Body Edexcel)

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of GCSE English at grade 5 or above. GCSE Drama at grade 5 or above is preferable but not essential. An interest in the subject is essential. Students must be prepared to perform within lessons and to a wider audience.

## CONTENT

### A-level Component 1: Practitioner in Practice (40% A-level).

- Devise an original performance piece
- Use one key extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli
- Performer or designer routes available

### Component 2: Exploring and Performing Texts (20% of A-level).

- 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

### Component 3: Analysing Performance (40% of A Level).

- Live theatre evaluation
- 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 reimaged for a contemporary audience

## PROGRESSION

In the past, students have gone on to study drama, set design, stage management and acting at university. Equally, a large number of students have gone on to study non-performance subjects such as Sciences, English, Psychology and Law. Theatre Studies provides cultural awareness and soft skills which are equally as desirable as A-level grades.

## GENERAL COMMENTS

A-Level Drama & Theatre Studies is a uniquely challenging course which combines practical exploration and performance with written analysis and research. It aims to deepen understanding and appreciation of theatre and enhance acting and stagecraft skills, while drawing on students' creativity and communication skills. Thanks to our link with the Georgian Theatre Royal, in both years, you will perform in a unique and historic professional theatre. A-level students have the opportunity to contribute to the Sixth Form Theatre Company and to lead workshops to younger years. Technical options such as lighting, sound, set or costume design are offered within the A-level. We pride ourselves on giving A-level Drama students ongoing one-to-one guidance and support. You will see live theatre productions throughout the course. This is a course that requires serious commitment and enthusiasm and the willingness to perform to an audience, both as an individual and as part of an ensemble.



I chose to study at Richmond Sixth Form College because of the amazing facilities, resources and opportunities available in the drama department.

During the course, you develop the ability to study, analyse and appreciate plays from multiple perspectives including those of the performer, the designer and the director. As well as this, the course allows you to explore your own creativity and grow as performers/creators of theatre. Taking the course will allow you to benefit from many transferable skills, such as critical thinking, teamwork, negotiation and collaboration. Studying Drama and Theatre Studies gave me the opportunity to engage in practical workshops led by current performing artists and perform our own work at the Georgian Theatre Royal.

**CALLUM WILSON**  
(Alumnus 2017-2019)

