



# Drama & Theatre Studies

## Aims

- To give all students access to the rich, diverse and creative world of drama.
- To initiate, explore and communicate ideas, thoughts and feelings in a variety of dramatic formats.
- To gain an insight into theatrical technique, history and tradition.
- To encourage students to write and design creatively.
- To develop students' listening and communication skills.

## Objectives

- To assist students in their preparation, performance and response to drama.
- To give students an insight into the processes required for creating theatrical experiences, including research and discussion, the art of improvisation, mime, speech-work, role-play and characterisation, the use of space and ancillary activities such as set design, lighting, sound and costume.
- To enable students to realise a piece of scripted or devised drama from the preparation stages to performance.
- To ensure that students understand the techniques involved in both rehearsal and performance, to criticise their own work and that of others, and to enable them to think, discuss and write about them in depth.
- To enable students to identify appropriate styles and genres.

## Who studies what and when?

### Years 7-9

Pupils study various units of work which increase in difficulty, depth of understanding, level of independent learning and practical application as they progress towards Year 9. They will acquire a broad range of practical and technical experience which includes vocal skills, physical skills, technical vocabulary, theatre technique, mime, improvisation and script work. They will also encompass a variety of theatrical styles and genres and learn to evaluate their own work and that of others.

### Years 10-11

GCSE Drama introduces students to the practical study of a complete play text and the opportunity to write in a critical manner about live theatre seen during the two-year course (which is examined) in addition to the already familiar practical work (which is internally assessed). The practical element allows them to experience both scripted and unscripted drama and they work in groups in order to research, prepare and produce assessed performance pieces.

### LVI (AS Level)

Students follow the AQA course. They cover one set text explored in a practical way and a further text studied through an actual performance. They also study one practitioner of their choice and will use their experiences and learning as a basis for the performance, which is examined. They will visit the theatre frequently and learn to write critical responses.

### UVI (A Level)

Again following the AQA course, students encounter two play texts for in-depth examination, study one further theatre practitioner and learn to present practical performance ideas through a devised piece. They visit live theatre frequently.

## Extra-curricular activities

- At least one teacher-directed school play
- Theatre visits
- Junior Drama Club
- Sixth Form Theatre Society

## Public examinations

GCSE: AQA DRAMA

AS/A LEVEL: AQA DRAMA & THEATRE STUDIES

