

**NORTHGATE**  
SIXTH FORM **IPSWICH**  
CENTRE



# DRAMA & THEATRE

A-LEVEL

2019-2020

# A Level Drama & Theatre

## Why do A Level Drama & Theatre?

If you are keen on acting and interested in gaining a greater understanding of how theatre and plays work, if you are curious about issues and ideas and have a creative instinct for communicating your views through drama, if you are interested in going to the theatre to see plays performed by different theatre companies, if you are keen to be involved with performances then A Level Drama & Theatre is the course for you.

A Level Drama & Theatre demands practical, creative and communication skills in almost equal measure. You will extend your ability to create drama and theatre through adopting a performing role. You will also be required to write about drama and to develop your powers of analysis to become an informed critic. The course will involve taking part in drama productions, as well as studying plays and playwrights..

A Level Drama & Theatre is a healthy blend of coursework and examination. All aspects of the course will be delivered through weekly lessons however there is an expectation that much of the performing coursework and preparation for the practical examination is undertaken through rehearsal outside of the curriculum lesson.

There are increasing numbers of people studying a variety of undergraduate University degrees having first studied Drama & Theatre at A Level as this course complements a range of subjects and is useful in building confidence and improving presentation skills in a range of careers.

## Awarding Body

EdExcel

## Entry Qualifications

**Grade 4 or above in Drama,  
or, for those students who have not  
studied GCSE Drama,  
Grade 4 in GCSE English Language.**

## Duration of the Course

**2 Years**

## Course Content

### Component 1: Devising 40%

Students devise a piece of theatre which they then perform. They will record the process in a portfolio. Both the performance and portfolio are internally assessed and externally moderated.

### Component 2: Text in Performance 20%

In a group students perform key extracts from a performance text and perform a monologue or a duologue from a different performance text. Both performances are externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

### Component 3: Theatre makers in practice 40%

This is a 2 hour 30 minute written exam with three sections to it.

**Sec A:** Live Theatre Evaluation

**Sec B:** Questions on a set text – Machinal

**Sec C:** Director's interpretation on a different set text in light of a practitioner – Woyzeck

## Teaching & Learning

Practical work, formal teaching of theory, live theatre, individual student research, discussion and rehearsal.

## Extra-curricular Drama

As you will be aware from the outline of the course, there is a very heavy demand on performance ability. It is vital therefore that students of the subject are performing and rehearsing on a regular basis. There will be the opportunity for students to support drama activities at KS3 and KS4, leading workshops, mentoring younger performers and to devise and direct small scale performances. Opportunities exist for students to become involved in the school show.

## Progression

With other A Level subjects for entry to Drama and Performing Arts at degree or HND level. Careers relating to the theatre including lighting, stage management, performing and teaching at both primary and secondary level.

**Curriculum Leader:** Miss H Patrick

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