

# A Level Drama and Theatre



**Exam Board:** OCR

**Entry Requirements:** grade 5 or above in English Language or Literature and a desire to be involved within the dramatic arts (it is preferable for you to have participated in a drama group whether in or out of school).

## Why study Drama and Theatre?

The skills that you learn through this course are transferable to any course that you wish to pursue further. All employers are seeking to recruit individuals who can demonstrate key skills that are developed throughout the course, such as communication, analytical and creativity skills. It also helps to build confidence, alongside presentational skills. This course provides excellent preparation for entry on to a Drama higher education course or related subject. Please only apply for this course if you are capable of the following; working as part of a team, willing to give up some independent study time for rehearsals, and are highly self-motivated.

## What does the course involve?

The A Level course is split into 4 Units. You will study the work of drama practitioners and apply their practices to your own devised piece. Alongside this you will study set texts, through which you will take on the roles of actors, directors and designers. The texts that you will study are: Bryony Lavery's *Stockholm*; Willis Hall's *The Long and the Short and the Tall*; Gregory Burke's *Black Watch*; and Dennis Potter's *Blue Remembered Hills*. The final aspect of the course involves watching professional performances and learning how to review the practical work of others. Marks are gained through participation in classwork, the building of portfolios, research reports and reviews, practical assessments and written examinations.

<b>Practitioners in Practice</b>	<b>Assessment areas:</b>	<b>40%</b> of Total A level
Study of two drama practitioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2000 word research essay</li><li>• Portfolio - documenting preparation for devised performance</li><li>• Devised performance</li></ul>	
Using an extract to create a devised performance piece		
<b>Exploring Texts for Performance</b>	<b>Assessment areas:</b>	<b>20%</b> of Total A level
Studying of <i>Blue Remembered Hills</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Practical exam (with an external examiner)</li></ul>	
<b>Analysing Performance</b>	<b>Assessment areas:</b>	<b>20%</b> of Total A level
Studying of <i>The Long and the Short and the Tall</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Written examination (2hours 15 minutes)</li></ul> <p><u>Section A:</u> Two questions, based upon the two texts studied</p> <p><u>Section B:</u> One question, reviewing a piece of theatre watched</p>	
Studying of <i>Black Watch</i>		
Observing professional performances		
<b>Deconstructing Texts for Performance</b>	<b>Assessment areas:</b>	<b>20%</b> of Total A level
Studying of <i>Stockholm</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Written examination (1hour 45 minutes)</li></ul> <p>Two questions, based upon the text studied</p>	

## **Where will Drama and Theatre lead me post Sixth Form?**

Drama and Theatre is a great step if you are interested in a career in the dramatic arts. This does not just prepare you for a career as an actor but for other roles within the industry such as directors, stage managers, etc. Other career opportunities that directly relate to studying drama also include: drama therapists, arts administrators, community arts workers, entertainment facilitators. Alongside this, the skills gained through studying drama such as self-confidence, teamwork, communication skills and organisational skills are beneficial across a wide range of career paths.

For more information, please contact Miss Spence: [rosie.spence@sirthomasfremantle.org](mailto:rosie.spence@sirthomasfremantle.org)