

Drama
Examination Board: AQA

What is the course like?

This is a varied, rigorous, creative course, where pupils develop their practical and written drama skills, over the two years of study, applying them to centre set play texts and stimuli. In addition, pupils will devise their own piece of theatre and performing extracts from a well-known play, either as an actor or designer. Pupils will also be offered a wide variety of theatrical experiences including trips and workshops, and it is hoped that they will take advantage of all the opportunities available to them.

What is studied during the course?

Component 1, pupils will study one full performance text practically (Blood Brothers), as well as compiling notes on ONE live performance experience, from the point of view as an audience member. They will then complete a written exam on both elements.

Component 2, pupils will apply techniques and ideas to devise their own work from stories, poems, paintings, and other stimuli. This will comprise of a polished performance and written or recorded Devising Log.

Component 3, pupils will explore a complete text, and then perform in two polished key extracts from it. These can be monologues, duologues or group scenes (maximum 25 minutes). Alternatively, pupils may also explore the text as a designer.

How is the course assessed?

Component 1 is worth 40% and is assessed internally and externally moderated. The marks are divided between live performance and a portfolio which can be written or filmed, or a combination of both. Component 2 is worth 20% and is externally assessed by an outside examiner. Component 3, the written examination, is worth 40% and features a five-part question on the studied text, plus an essay question on the visited production.

Section A - four multiple choice technical questions

Section B - four questions on the studied set-text

Section C - an extended response on visited live production

Additional Information

The course is well suited to pupils who want to collaborate with others on work that is creative and imaginative. This is reinforced by the wide variety of theatre visits to Bath, Bristol, London and recent trips have included Blood Brothers, Pride and Prejudice (sort of), A Christmas Carol, The Woman In Black, Wonderboy, Wuthering Heights. We also have a strong record of taking our work into the community, including performances to primary age children from local schools, showcases in local festivals, and partnerships with professional theatres, such as such as Bristol Old Vic and the Egg Theatre in Bath.

For further information, please contact Mr Kirkman

