

“Theatre is the art of looking at ourselves”  
 Augusto Boal



### WHY CHOOSE DRAMA ?

Telling stories is a necessary, instinctive way to (try to) make sense of our world – Studying Drama will help you to understand other people’s stories, and will teach you how to tell your own, in lots of different ways.

Drama helps to develop interpersonal skills like empathy and understanding by allowing us to look at the world through someone else’s eyes. Drama also helps us to more readily adapt to situations we find ourselves in and helps us to negotiate our way through life.

### HOW WILL DRAMA HELP ME? WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Drama is hugely beneficial for many different careers and helps us to develop life skills which we use every day. Some of these skills include communication, a team mentality, empathy, confidence, listening skills, public speaking, creative thinking, to name but a few.



## WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE? WHAT WILL I STUDY?

We are currently following the BTEC Tech Award (equivalent to GCSE) in Performing Arts – this course is a good grounding for those students who wish to pursue a level 3 qualification at college or 6th Form.

The course comprises 3 units:

### Component 1: Exploring Practitioners' Work

Students will watch live performances (recorded and in theatres) and engage in workshops in the style of those pieces of theatre.

### Component 2: Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts

Students will study an existing script, take part in voice and movement workshops, and work in groups to rehearse and perform a section of the script.

### Component 3: Responding To A Brief

In Year 11, students will be given a brief set by the exam board, which they must follow to produce their own, original piece of theatre, using the skills they have honed over the previous units.

## HOW WILL I LEARN?

In Drama/ Performing Arts, you will learn by mostly engaging in practical workshops – you will fine tune your performance skills, and get regular feedback and advice from your teacher about how to develop your skills further.

You will learn by reflecting on your work, and setting targets for the next piece – setting targets are an integral part of the course, and students following this subject are constantly striving to improve their techniques and abilities.

You will learn by watching and studying professional repertoire, and analysing its impact on an audience. You will learn from industry professionals, who lead sessions with us on set design, filmmaking, puppetry, costume, etc. You will learn by watching each other, and being able to identify what works well in front of an audience.

## HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

- ✓ Components 1 and 2 are internally assessed (marked by your teacher) and externally moderated (the marks are checked by the exam board) – each component is worth 30% of your overall grade.
- ✓ Your grade will be awarded through regular logbook entries, evidence of research, presentations, recordings of performances and rehearsals – basically everything you produce will go towards your final grade in these units.
- ✓ Component 3 is externally assessed, and is worth 40% of your overall grade. You will produce a 10 - 15-minute performance, and complete 3x1 hour reports under controlled assessment conditions. You also have the option to pursue a design route for this option, e.g. set design, costume, lighting, sound.

## HOW CAN I PROGRESS?

Aside from the most obvious routes in theatre, tv and film, a drama qualification is also highly prized by many of the top universities in the country. Students who take Drama often go on to pursue careers in teaching, public relations, marketing, law, psychology, among others. The skills that studying drama brings are transferable to many other career paths, and are skills that will help you in your day-to-day life.

