

## **Drama in Key Stage 5**

We follow EDEXCEL at A' Level which enables us the freedom to explore plays and themes that we believe will engage our students. The extracts below are from the specification and outline each of the Unit's overall content:

### **Unit 1 (AS): Exploration of Drama and Theatre**

This internally assessed unit requires students to explore two contrasting play texts, chosen by the centre, in a practical and active way. At least one of the plays must be explored in the light of a recognised theatre practitioner. A video/DVD of one session of the practical work must also be made available for use in moderation.

A set of Exploration Notes based on individual research and response to the practical work to a maximum of 3000 words must also be submitted. Students are also required to experience a live theatre performance and submit an evaluation to a maximum of 1000 words. The live theatre experience may be a performance of one of the chosen play texts or a different play.

All elements of this unit are internally assessed and externally moderated.

### **Unit 2 (AS): Theatre Text in Performance**

This externally assessed unit contains two elements. It requires students to contribute to a performance of a professionally published play by a known writer. Group sizes should not be fewer than three or more than nine students and performance time should not be less than 15 minutes or more than 60 minutes.

Additionally, students must offer either a monologue or duologue from a different play to that offered in the first section. Students may offer either acting or a design form. These may be different in each of the two sections of the unit.

Students shall also provide a concept of the interpretation of their chosen roles or designs. This unit will be assessed under examination conditions by a visiting examiner on a date negotiated with the centre.

### **Unit 3 (A2): Exploration of Dramatic Performance (Devising)**

This internally assessed unit requires students to create an original and unique piece of theatre. Their starting point may be stimulus material, themes, ideas and issues or a professionally published play by a known writer. Students will be assessed on the research and development of their work as well as the final performance in front of an identified audience. They are also required to complete an evaluation on both the process and performance of their work.

Groups will work in no fewer than three and no more than six students. Smaller groups should produce a performance of no less than 15 minutes and larger groups no more than 30 minutes.

Written evidence will be required reflecting the research and development work as well as a video/DVD of the final performance. This unit will be internally assessed and externally moderated.

#### **Unit 4 (A2): Theatre Text in Context**

This externally assessed unit takes the form of a two-and-a-half hour written paper. There are three sections to the paper. In Section A and B one play should be studied and explored from the point of view of a director from a choice of three set texts. It will be expected that students will explore the play in both an academic and practical way.

In Section C a selection must be made of one from a choice of three historic periods of theatre history. The choice must be different from the period represented by the chosen set text in Sections A and B. A live performance of a play from the chosen period must be experienced and evaluated and a comparison made with the original staging conditions of the play. This unit will be externally set and assessed. (All information is taken from the Spec.)