

TITLE	DRAMA (A LEVEL)
BOARD	EDEXCEL
INTRODUCTION	There is a strong practical element throughout this course, which covers playwrights and practitioners, Ancient and Modern. Experience in drama at GCSE is not a necessary pre-requisite.
COURSE STRUCTURE	<p><u>Component 1</u>: Devising - students will develop their creative and exploratory skills to devise an original performance. The starting point for this devising process will be an extract from a performance text and an influential theatre practitioner. Students will also write a portfolio evaluating the overall devising process.</p> <p><u>Component 2</u>: Text in Performance – students prepare and perform two key extracts, each from a different performance text. They can choose to perform a monologue/ duologue or group performance. Students can choose to be assessed as either a performer or a designer.</p> <p><u>Component 3</u>: Theatre makers in practice –students look at two plays from a performer/designer’s point of view and will reflect on their experience as an informed member of an audience at a live theatre performance, enabling them to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of performance through analysis and evaluation.</p>
ASSESSMENT	<p><u>Component 1</u> - This section of the course is internally assessed and externally moderated. It is worth 40%.</p> <p><u>Component 2</u> - Performances are assessed externally by a visiting examiner and are worth 20%.</p> <p><u>Component 3</u> - This section of the course is assessed through an end of year examination, where students answer a range of extended response questions. It is worth 40%.</p>
GENERAL COMMENTS	Much of this course involves independent research and sustained and creative thought rather than formal essay writing skills. Homework demands will vary – the performance units demand considerable commitment beyond the normal lesson and homework time while the textual study component fits easily into the usual pattern. Enthusiasm, the ability to work independently and a readiness to be involved and to share ideas are essential.
PROGRESSION	Although studying A Level Drama does not guarantee a career in the theatre, many students do go on to study related courses at university or to pursue vocational training at drama school. The analytical skills which you will develop in Drama support a wide range of other subjects for university entry, for example, English, Media, Humanities, Social Sciences or Law. The courses equip students with transferable skills which are highly attractive to employers – not least the ability to work co-operatively with others and to communicate ideas effectively.
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	In order to study A level Drama you must have obtained at least a grade 6 at GCSE in Drama or Performing Arts. If you have not been examined in these subjects at GCSE you should have obtained a grade 6 or higher in GCSE English Language.

Please see Mr Watkins if you would like to discuss the course.