

Drama & Theatre

Subject Information Sheet

Course Title:	A-level: Drama & Theatre
Subject:	Drama & Theatre
Qualification:	A LEVEL (7262)
Exam Board:	AQA
General Course Description	<p>There are several reasons for studying Drama & Theatre A-level.</p> <p>The first is depth of knowledge. This course will allow students to engage with drama in real depth, broadening their understanding and exploring a range of texts, practitioners and styles through practical workshops. You will develop practical performance skills, technical understanding of how theatre works, an appreciation of dramatic texts and an ability to critically evaluate live theatre.</p> <p>The second reason is that 60% of the course is assessed on the practical work we do in lessons, so students that relish performing will have that chance to shine, as well as being assessed on the work that they create.</p> <p>The third reason is that the A-level is a natural progression from GCSE Drama; many of the core skills should have been embedded and students will be able to develop those skills further.</p> <p>Alongside the set requirements of the course, you will also be building confidence, learning to work independently & as part of an ensemble, problem-solving, and shaping your own opinions.</p>
Course Content and Teaching Units	<p>The course is divided into three components:</p> <p><u>1. Drama & Theatre</u></p> <p>- Students will have the opportunity to study two set texts in real depth and evaluate a piece of live theatre seen. This unit is assessed in a written examination at the end of the course.</p>

	<p><u>2. Creating original drama (practical)</u> - Students will work in small groups to devise a piece of original theatre based on the work of a prescribed practitioner. This unit is assessed on the devising process and final performance.</p> <p><u>3. Making theatre (practical)</u> - This unit focuses on the performances of 3 extracts taken from different plays. Extract 3 is assessed in performance along with an evaluative report of all three performances.</p>
Entry Requirements	<p>GCSE Drama – Grade 5 and above. GCSE English Language/English Literature - Grade 5 and above.</p> <p>Individual cases can be considered for students that have not studied Drama at GCSE, but have pursued a personal interest outside education.</p>
Assessment	<p><u>Component 1. Drama & Theatre</u> - 40% of A-level - Written examination at the end of the second year - Externally assessed</p> <p><u>Component 2. Creating original drama</u> - 30% of A-level - Devised performance & working notebook - Internally assessed</p> <p><u>Component 3. Making theatre</u> - 30% of A-level - Performance of a script extract & reflective report - Externally assessed</p>
Financial Information	<p>Students will need to see one performance as a class which they will evaluate in the written examination. They will also have the opportunity to take part in a residential trip, which will give them the chance to see several performances, take part in workshops and go on a theatre tour.</p>
Progression Opportunities	<p>The course will prepare students well for the next stage of their education, be that university or auditioning for drama school. The academic rigour required at A-level will give students the skills and confidence to succeed in higher education.</p> <p>Studying Drama gives students so many transferable skills: improved self-confidence, independence, higher level thinking, communication and problem-solving to name but a few. Perhaps</p>

	<p>the most important skill to be nurtured is creativity, to allow students to respond creatively to whatever they are faced with in the future.</p> <p>"Creativity is as important now in education as literacy and we should treat it with the same status."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- Sir Ken Robinson</p>
<p>Further information about our courses, including results</p>	<p>This will be the first year that KES will be offering A-level, having previously been following the BTEC course. Due to a change in BTEC specification, it feels like an opportune moment to switch to A-level and offer students a new challenge.</p> <p>Previous BTEC results have been outstanding and Drama at GCSE has consistently good progress scores, with students often achieving above and beyond their predictions.</p>
<p>Trips, visits and extra-curricular</p>	<p>We will offer students several opportunities to take part in visits to the theatre, as well as a residential trip to London. All students in the Sheffield area who study Drama are also entitled to an <i>Ignite</i> card, which entitles them to a free ticket to any Sheffield Theatres production in the Crucible theatre.</p> <p>We are currently developing new links with the Crucible Theatre and with Sheffield Hallam University Performing Arts department. This will hopefully result in some fantastic new and exciting opportunities to get involved in projects across the wider community.</p> <p>There is an expectation that all 6th form students studying Drama will take part in the school production, as well as being involved in several smaller productions across the year.</p> <p>A longer term aim is for KES to take part in the National Theatre Connections programme, which gives students the chance to perform in a newly commissioned piece of writing for young people.</p>