



# A-Level Drama & Theatre



# King Ecgbert School

2022-2024

OCR A-Level Drama & Theatre  
Head of Drama: Miss E Broadhead

# Why choose to study A-Level Drama & Theatre at KES?

- ✓ An opportunity to explore and ignite your passions for Drama and Theatre.
- ✓ A chance to create full scale pieces of work that are your original ideas and concepts and allow you to communicate your artistic visions and ideas to audience.
- ✓ A creative and practical subject that allows self-expression.
- ✓ The opportunity to work with likeminded students who share your passions whilst also learning from others and their opinions and ideas.
- ✓ Specialist and experienced teachers providing 1 to 1 support.



# How does A-Level Drama and Theatre equip me for a career within the Creative Arts field?

- A-Level Drama and Theatre provides you with experience working as a theatre company, creating professional standard performances. This allows you to develop a range of practical skills and a great understanding of how to craft theatre which will prepare you for Drama School or a Drama degree.
- A wide variety of play texts and theatre practitioners/companies are studied which will equip you with an outstanding theoretical understanding of the subject for those wishing to study a Drama and Theatre course at degree level.
- A developed understanding of the variety of theatre makers roles (Actors, Designers, Directors) to allow you to specialise at degree level.
- Support and guidance on next steps from experienced Drama teachers who can support your career choices and support with interview or auditions.

ROYAL CENTRAL  
SCHOOL OF SPEECH & DRAMA  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

**RADA**  
ROYAL  
ACADEMY OF  
DRAMATIC ART



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

# How does A-Level Drama and Theatre equip me for employment out of the Creative Arts field?



- In addition to developing a wide array and rich set of practical skills and theoretical understand, A-Level Drama and Theatre will equip you with transferable skills which employers are seeking.
- When Google took a deeper look at workplace success, despite being a company that specialises in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), they found:

*The seven top characteristics of success at Google are all soft skills: being a good coach; communicating and listening well; possessing insights into others (including others different values and points of view); having empathy toward and being supportive of one's colleagues; being a good critical thinker and problem solver; and being able to make connections across complex ideas.*

- All of these are skills which A-Level Drama and Theatre teaches students and students are then able to transfer these skills into roles within the working world.

# The course:



- OCR A-Level Drama & Theatre
- 2 Year Course
- 5 Teaching hours per week
- Specialist and experienced teaching staff
- 4 Components taught over the 2 years
- 40% of the A-Level is completed by the end of Year 12
- Opportunities to visit the theatre and attend workshops with industry professionals
- A balance of practical components alongside written components that are taught through practical exploration



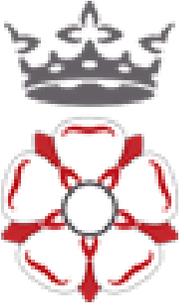
# Practitioners in practice - 40% - 120 Marks

## What will you be doing?

- You will study a range of theatre practitioners, some you have already experienced; Frantic Assembly, and some who will be new to you and who will be influential to the work you create throughout the course.
- You will consider their theories, ways of working and how they developed and evolved the world of theatre.
- You will use a stimulus play text to create your own performance in the style of up to two of these practitioners.
- You will research themes and issues which interest you and create an impactful contemporary devised performance.
- Finally, you will stage and perform your 30-minute polished work to an invited audience. This will be a devised piece of work in which you have had total creative freedom.

## How are you assessed?

- Your performance will be internally assessed and moderated by OCR.
- You will create a research report and creative journal documenting your processes which will be internally assessed and moderated by OCR.
- Finally, you will evaluate your completed performance. This will be assessed in the same way as the areas above.



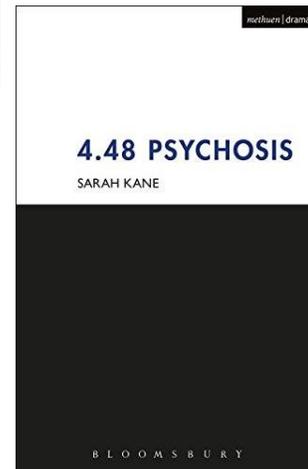
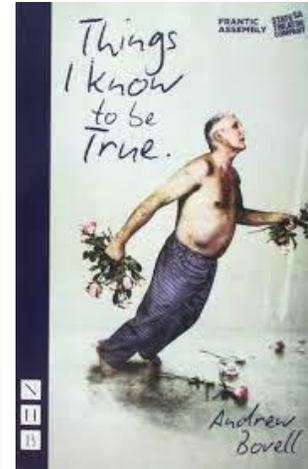
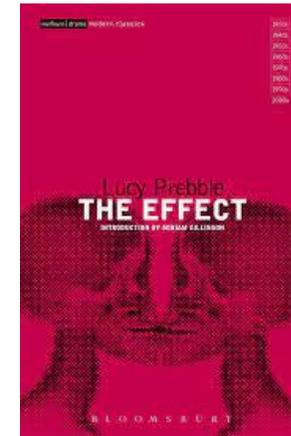
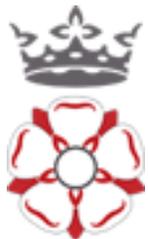
# Exploring & Performing Texts - 20% - 60 Marks

## What will you be doing?

- Studying one performance text which we will practically explore through a series of workshops.
- You will choose a 30-minute extract from the performance text.
- You will create an artistic vision for this performance.
- You will stage this performance and consider character choices and semiotic (staging, music, lighting, costume, props etc.) choices.
- Complete a *Concept Pro Forma* - 3 questions about your artistic vision, your role(s) and how you want the audience to respond to your performance.

## How are you assessed?

- A visiting examiner will mark your 30-minute performance: you are marked on your performance skills and your ability to create meaning to the audience.
- Your *Concept Pro Forma* will be marked by the visiting examiner.



# Analysing Performance (Section A and B) - 20% - 60 Marks

## Section A - What will you be doing?

- You will research into the centre chosen texts and into the chosen theme. We will read both texts and analyse the plot, characters and how they present the chosen theme.
- We will then complete a series of practical workshops on the two texts to explore how we as actors, directors and designers can enhance and present the chosen theme within the text.
- We will then explore how to answer exam questions about how performance and production elements can be used to present the text and enhance the chosen theme.

## Section A - How are you assessed?

- Written exam: 2 x 15 Mark Questions.

## Section B - What will you be doing?

- You will visit the theatre several times over your A-Level study. Trips will be led by the school; however, we encourage students to see as much theatre as possible and even join youth theatre companies.
- For Section B of the Analysing Performance component, we will visit the theatre as a class and will be analysing and evaluating the performance seen. This will require you to have a depth of understanding of current social and political events - this unit explores theatre as a reaction to our world.

## Section B - How are you assessed?

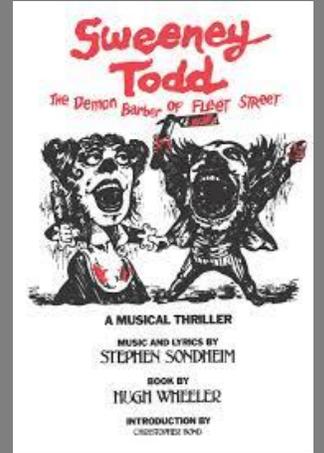
- You will answer one 30-mark question as an essay response.



# Deconstructing Texts For Performance - 20% - 60 Marks

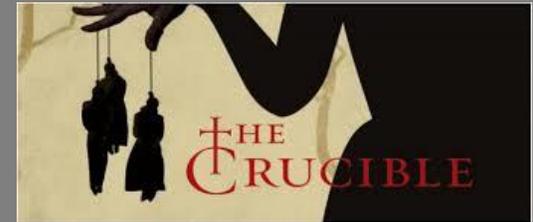
## What will you be doing?

- Reading and analysing a play text.
- Explore key scenes through workshops and practical exploration.
- Annotate and direct sections of the script just as professional directors would.
- Present your artistic vision for the play text through a Viva Voce style presentation.
- Consolidate your vision and understanding of the play text in preparation for the summer exam.



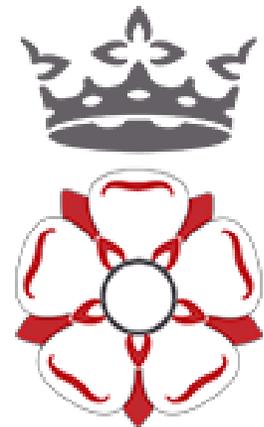
## How are you assessed?

- 2 x 30-mark questions as essay responses on your visions for the play text.



# Who should choose A-Level Drama and Theatre?

- Students who have studied GCSE/BTEC Level 2 Drama or Performing Arts and have achieved a Grade 5 or equivalent.
- **Students who love to perform/direct.**
- Students who have a passion for Theatre and creating new, exciting and original theatre.
- **Students who want to take a practical, varied course which will equip them with transferable skills which will make them highly successful and employable in the working world.**



# Next Steps...

If you would like to discuss the components of the A-Level further or have any questions, please speak to Miss Broadhead.

