

## Studying Drama

Drama students should expect to develop a high standard of performance skills through work on both devised and scripted projects. They will study the theatrical possibilities of play texts and examine how they can be taken from script to stage.

### The Course Content

Pupils need to have an enthusiasm for performing and for interpreting and responding to a play script, which will be DNA by Dennis Kelly, as well as an ability to devise their own project in response to a topic or stimuli. Pupils will undertake several theatre visits to enable them to critically analyse and evaluate live theatre. Pupils will also realise two extracts from a play text before a visiting examiner.

There will be a written examination in the Summer Term of the Fourth Year and a Trial examination in January of the Fifth Year, before the final written examination takes place in Summer 2024.

A significant amount of time throughout the course will be spent on the NEA components and there will be performance dates towards the end of the course.

### Assessment of the course

The department follows the Edexcel GCSE Drama course, which comprises of three components:

Component 1: Devising – this is an NEA component and comprises 40% of the total marks. Pupils develop and perform a piece in response to a series of stimuli. Alongside this, they produce a 2,000 word portfolio analysing and evaluating their creative process.

Component 2: Performance from Text – this comprises 20% of the total marks and is marked by a visiting examiner. Pupils interpret two key extracts from a performance text. They may work as either a performer or designer.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice – this is a 90 minute terminal written exam and comprises 40% of the overall grade. Pupils respond to an unseen extract from DNA from the perspectives of a performer, director and designer. Pupils also analyse and evaluate a live performance they have seen. Pupils are allowed to take live theatre performance notes into the examination to help them.

#### Written Examination

40%

#### NEA/Coursework

40% devised performance/portfolio  
20% performance (visiting examiner)

### Further information

For further information, please speak to Mr King-Sayce, or visit the Board's website:  
<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/drama-2016.html>

