



# Drama & Theatre Studies

Examination Board: EDEXCEL  
Qualification: A & AS Level

## You should follow the course if:

- you have enjoyed Drama through the school
- you wish to improve your communication skills
- you wish to achieve an A Level in an enjoyable way
- you enjoy social interaction with others
- you enjoy going to the theatre and studying plays in a practical way
- you enjoy performing and/or designing
- you are committed to rehearsing after school at times
- you enjoy working with professional directors, script writers, actors and designers



## During the course you will:

- develop a multitude of skills, including collaboration, communication and an understanding of how to amend and refine work
- perform in, or design for, a play and extracts from plays
- study plays in depth, concentrating on how they would be staged
- study the theories of theatrical practitioners
- analyse live theatre events
- specialise in acting, design or technical skills

## What teaching and learning methods will be used?

- active learning through workshop with teaching staff and theatre practitioners
- recording work by videoing and photographing
- script writing, essay skills and theatre reviewing
- development of time-management skills
- group, individual and partner work activities

## What can you do when you have your qualification?

- go on to Higher Education ie. a wide range of degree courses
- pursue a theatrical career
- go straight into the work place, particularly in careers where you are working with others

## COURSE CONTENT & ASSESSMENT

AS and A level in Drama and Theatre will be assessed through a combination of a 40% written exam and 60% Non-Examined Assessment (NEA).

AS will be a separate, linear qualification; the content of the AS is a subset of the A Level so the qualifications can be co-taught.

Specifications require students to demonstrate a practical understanding of:

- **AS** – a minimum of one complete and substantial performance text and a minimum of two key extracts from two different texts, placed in the context of the whole text.
- **A level** – a minimum of two complete and substantial performance texts and at least three key extracts from three different texts placed in the context of the whole text.

Students must study the work and methodologies of one influential theatre practitioner (individual or companies) at **AS** and two theatre practitioners at **A level**.

Specifications in drama and theatre require students to participate in:

- **AS** – a minimum of one performance from a text studied during the course
- **A level** – a minimum of two performances, one devised and one from a performance text studied during the course.

For both AS and A level the set texts will require students to articulate how they would perform in certain roles, and design for certain scenes, putting practical work at the heart of each specification.

**Students who want to complete the full A level in Drama will not necessarily sit the AS level, however both AS and A level qualifications are available for study.**



**For further information or advice please contact Ms Hindley.** [drama.contact@williamhoward.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:drama.contact@williamhoward.cumbria.sch.uk)