

# Drama and Theatre Studies

## A level

### What will I study and learn?

This qualification aims to enable you to:

- Develop and apply an informed, analytical framework for making, performing, interpreting and understanding drama and theatre
- Understand the place of relevant theoretical research in informing the processes and practices involved in creating theatre, and the place of practical exploration in informing theoretical knowledge of drama and theatre
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of how the social, cultural and historical contexts of performance texts have influenced the development of drama and theatre
- Understand the practices used in 21st century theatre making
- Experience a range of opportunities to create theatre, both published text-based and devised work
- Participate as a theatre maker and as an audience member in live theatre
- Understand and experience the collaborative relationship between various roles within theatre
- Develop and demonstrate a range of theatre-making skills
- Develop the creativity and independence to become effective theatre makers
- Adopt safe working practices as a theatre maker
- Analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others.

### How will I be assessed?

There are three components to the assessment:

#### Component 1 Devising (40%)

Devise an original performance piece using one key extract from a performance text and theatre practitioner.

#### Component 2

Text in performance (20%)

- A group performance/design realisation of one key extract from a performance text
- A monologue or duologue performance/design realisation of one key extract from a different performance text.

#### Component 3

Written exam (40%)

- Live theatre evaluation
- Practical exploration and study of a complete text
- Practical exploration and interpretation of another complete performance text.

## A level/IB

Through the study of theatre, students become aware of their own personal and cultural perspectives, developing an appreciation of the diversity of theatre practices, their processes and their modes of presentation. It enables students to discover and engage with different forms of theatre across time, place and culture and promotes international-mindedness, imagination, confidence, creation and self-awareness. You will develop skills of negotiation, effective communication and leadership – essential skills for your life beyond school and beyond university.

This course is an exciting and challenging option for those of you who are looking for a practical subject that shows others you are self-motivated and can work well in a group. It is designed to encourage creativity, focusing on practical work that reflects 21st century theatre practice, and developing skills that will support progression to the further study of drama and a wide range of other subjects.

### Entry requirements

You should achieve a grade 7 in Drama, English Language and/or Literature to be able to study the A level or IB higher level course; a grade 6 is the minimum grade for the IB standard level course. It is helpful but not necessary to have studied Drama at GCSE.



## IB – Theatre

### What will I study?

The IB gives you the opportunity to make theatre as a creator, designer, director and performer. The course emphasises the importance of working both individually and collaboratively as part of an ensemble. You will engage actively in the creative process, transforming ideas into action as inquisitive and productive artists.

You will contrast artistic perspectives, learning to apply research and theory to inform and to contextualize your work. You will also be encouraged to appreciate that through the processes of researching, creating, preparing, presenting and critically reflecting on theatre – as participants and audience members – you will gain a richer understanding of yourself, your community and the world.

### How will I be assessed?

All work is coursework-based with no final exam. It has four units:

External assessment			Internal assessment
Task 1 Responsive Writing HL only (35%)	Task 2 Director’s notebook SL (35%) and HL (20%)	Task 3 Research presentation SL (30%) and HL (20%)	Task 4 Collaborative project SL (35%) and HL (25%)
You will research a theatre theorist you have not previously studied, identify an aspect(s) of their theory, and create and present a solo theatre piece based on this aspect(s) of theory.	You will choose a published play text you have not previously studied, and explore ideas about how the entire play could be staged for an audience.	You will plan and deliver an individual presentation to your peers in which you present and physically demonstrate your research into a convention of a theatre tradition you have not previously studied.	You will collaboratively create and present an original piece of theatre to a specified target audience, created from a starting point of your choice.

### Want to know more?

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Exam Board:  
[www.qualifications.pearson.com](http://www.qualifications.pearson.com)  
(Edexcel)  
[www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)

“I am always at liberty to express my creativity as an individual. Being in such a fantastic environment, and working in a world class facility like the 1532 Performing Arts Centre is what makes things truly special.

Harrison Nash, OB 2020  
Courses: Biology, Drama and Geography