



DRAMA & THEATRE STUDIES DEPARTMENT

The Drama and Theatre Studies department is a thriving hub of activity at Prince Henry's with staff who are experienced and committed to enabling students to achieve their full potential in the subject. We aim to encourage an atmosphere of respect and understanding coupled with academic achievement. All production elements are on offer, including performance, design or directorial. Students are given a broad and dynamic range of texts to discover and explore as well as hands on guidance and advice for both the practical and theoretical perspectives.

For both GCSE and A Level courses, students will experience the following learning styles: active learning involving working in groups, improvisation, problem solving as part of a team and discussion and interpretation of texts as well as the planning and guidance required on essay writing. Play texts and the work of practitioners are explored in practical ways on stage. All students are given the opportunity to participate in regular theatre visits as part of the course.

Many opportunities are available for all students including theatre visits, Digital Theatre Plus, Gold Arts Award, Drama Club as well as frequent visits to the RSC, the Cheltenham Everyman and our annual visit to the West End.

KEY STAGE 3

All students will receive one lesson of drama per month as part of their English lesson provision. These lessons are taught in the Drama Studio or the Arts Theatre.

KEY STAGE 4

Component 1 - Understanding Drama

- What is assessed - Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre, study of one Shakespeare text and analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers
- How it is assessed - Written exam - 40% of total grade

Component 2 - Devising Drama (practical)

- What is assessed - Process of creating devised drama, performance of devised drama (students may contribute as a performer or designer) and analysis and evaluation of own work
- How it is assessed - Devising Logs, (60 marks) Devised Performance (20 marks) - 40% of total grade

Component 3 - Texts in Practice (practical)

- What is assessed - Performance of two extracts from one play as either performer or designer
- How it is assessed - Performance of both extracts (20 marks each) to AQA Examiner - 20% of total grade

KEY STAGE 5

Component 1 - Drama and Theatre

- What is assessed - Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre, study of two set plays, (one chosen from List A, one chosen from List B), and analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers
- How it is assessed - Written exam, open book (3 hours) - 40% of total grade (80 marks)

Component 2 - Creating Original Drama (practical)

- What is assessed - Process of creating devised drama and performance of the devised piece, (students may contribute as performer, designer or director). The devised piece must be influenced by the work and methodologies of one prescribed practitioner
- How it is assessed - Working Notebook, (40 marks) devised performance (20 marks) - 30% of total grade

Component 3 - Making Theatre (practical)

- What is assessed - Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts, each taken from a different play, methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied to Extract 3 (students contribute as performer, designer or director), as well as a Reflective Report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts
- How it is assessed - Performance of Extract 3 (40 marks) and a Reflective Report (20 marks), both marked by an AQA Examiner - 30% of total grade

SUPER CURRICULUM

We work with the English department as well as providing a 'Page to Stage day' for Year 9 students in the summer term.

EXTRA CURRICULUM

There are a large number of extra-curricular drama activities on offer at Prince Henry's. Here is an example of the activities that take place every school year:

- Year 9 and Year 10 Drama Club
 - Year 11 Theatre in Education to Year 9 (as part of the GCSE course).
 - Arts Award performance to Swan Lane First School
 - Christmas Celebration
 - Main school production. (This is open to all students from year 9 - 13)
- Our previous productions:

2014 - "Anything Goes"

2015 - "A Midsummer Night's Dream"

2016 - "Les Miserables" - The School Edition

2017 - "Much Ado About Nothing".

2018 - "Rodgers and Hammerstein's 'Oklahoma!'"

2019 - "Me & My Girl"

2020 - "Our House"