The Cardinal Wiseman School
A Level courses

DRAMA AND THEATRE

Entry Requirements:

To study Drama and Theatre at Cardinal Wiseman you will need to have 5 x Level 9 to 4 GCSE passes including 5 in English Language or 5 in Drama.

What will I study?

- Performance skills
- Professional, live theatre evaluation
- Devising drama
- Analysing play texts
- Learning and applying theatre practitioner theory
- Understanding design concepts
- Exploring performance from different time periods.

The course is split into three components:

Component 1-Devising

You will create an original piece of theatre based on an extract from a text using the techniques and methods of either theatre practitioner or a theatre company. You will summarise your work in a portfolio which is an extended written assignment.

Component 2- Text in Performance

You will perform in either a monologue or duologue extract from a text and take part in a group performance from a different text.

Component 3- Theatre Makers in Practice

Written exam exploring three extended essay questions.

Section A: Live Theatre Evaluation

You will answer one extended response question from a choice of two requiring you to analyse and evaluate a live or streamed theatre performance you have studied and seen in light of a given statement.

Section B: Page to Stage: Realising a Performance

You answer two extended response questions based on an unseen extract from the performance text you have studied. Students will demonstrate how, as theatre maker, you intend to realise the extract in performance. You answer from the perspective of a performer and a designer.

Section C: Interpreting a Performance Text

You will answer one extended response question from a choice of two based on an unseen named section from their chosen performance text. You will demonstrate how their re-imagined production concept will communicate ideas to a contemporary audience. You will also need to outline how the work of their chosen theatre practitioner has influenced your overall production concept and demonstrate an awareness of the performance text in its original performance conditions.

What are the examination/coursework requirements?
The course has a good balance of practical and written exams/coursework and is divided as follows:

Component One is 40% of your qualification. **Internally assessed**
You will submit a **written portfolio** and create a devised **performance**/design realisation.

Component Two is 20% of your qualification and is an external assessment by a visiting examiner of your **practical performances**.

Component Three is 40% of your qualification. This is a 2 ½ hour **written examination.**

What skills will I develop?
Our aim is to inspire, support and engage learners and help them grow into independent, creative thinkers with the following skills:

- The ability to develop and apply an informed, analytical framework for making, performing, interpreting and understanding drama and theatre
- The ability to develop an understanding and appreciation of how the social, cultural and historical contexts of performance texts have influenced the development of drama and theatre
- The ability to create theatre from both published texts and devised work
- The ability to participate as a theatre maker and as an audience member in live theatre
- The ability to understand and experience the collaborative relationship between various roles within theatre
- The ability to develop creativity and independence to become effective theatre makers
- The ability to participate in analytical discussion through wider reading and experience of live theatre.

How will this subject help me with my future career?

The skills gained in this subject can be transferred to various careers in Business and the Arts. Many go on to study Drama or Media at university, becoming performers or working behind the scenes in theatre or television. Others use the skills they have gained to work in areas where public speaking, presentations and analytical thinking are necessary; for example, in teaching, medicine, criminology and law. Universities value the skills gained by students who have studied Drama. Students are viewed as confident, creative and motivated individuals.