

The Drama Department

This is a highly successful and well-established department with an outstanding reputation for the quality of both its curricular and extra-curricular offer.

At Key Stage 4 we follow the Eduqas Drama syllabus and in the Sixth Form we follow AQA. The subject is a popular option and in addition significant numbers of students take part in extra-curricular drama.

Standards at all levels are very high, both in raw score and value-added terms. In 2024, 78% of students achieved a grade 5 or above in their GCSE Drama, with 17% achieving a grade 7 or above and in 2025 78% achieved a Grade 4 or above with 44% achieving a Grade 6 or above. These results are indicative of the extremely high quality of teaching and learning in the department.

The department is well resourced with a fully equipped specialist drama studio with excellent technical equipment. It shares an office with the music department in our performing arts block known as the West End.

Drama has an extremely high profile in the college. It is compulsory for all Year 9 students. As well as being a popular option subject, the impact of drama on the extra-curricular life of the college is substantial. There is an annual House Drama festival which is hotly contested and encourages large numbers of students to get involved with performing, backstage and technical theatre. We also have an annual college play or musical, often staged in collaboration with the music department. In recent years the department has staged *We Will Rock You*, *The 39 Steps*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *The Witches*, *Lord of the Flies* and *The Crucible*.

We also run frequent theatre trips to London and Cambridge for both Key Stage 4 and Sixth Form groups as well as hosting workshops by groups such as Splendid Productions and Frantic Assembly.

September 2025