



JERSEY
COLLEGE
for Girls

DRAMA AND THEATRE

A LEVEL



Considering Drama and Theatre as an option could be one of the best decisions you will ever make!

Why?

Well Drama and Theatre is not only excellent fun but is also highly challenging, intellectually demanding and a great builder of character. The subject is accepted by all universities and higher education colleges. In this leaflet we try to answer any questions that you might have about the subject. Please feel free to speak to us if you have other queries.

What is A Level Drama and Theatre?

A Level Drama and Theatre explores all aspects of theatre practically, critically and theoretically. At A Level you will work practically on examined performances and will also prepare to sit a written exam paper. The practical work is marked by teachers and visiting examiners from AQA. Practical work is both scripted and self-created. Your teachers will help you with the pieces at all stages but the final interpretation of your chosen play or devised performance must be your own. You can choose to act, direct or design within your group and it is expected that the final piece is well-rehearsed and ready for performance. The written exam at A Level covers live productions seen and set texts. You will be expected to answer five questions, one on live theatre and the other four on two selected texts. We will take you to the theatre a lot during the course, both in Jersey and when we go to London on the annual Drama and Theatre trip.

Is Drama and Theatre the same as Drama IGCSE?

No, but it develops the work you have already done in Drama to include a more academic and critical approach to theatre. In recent years, A Level Drama and Theatre has been chosen and passed by students who did not

take Drama as one of their GCSE subjects. A Level Drama and Theatre is accessible to all students who have a strong interest in the theatre.

Do I have to be able to act to take Drama and Theatre?

Drama and Theatre is not an acting course – though the ability to act helps! You will be expected to participate in the group performance as part of your practical assessment for the course. However, your participation can be in a more technical or design-based area. You can also choose to direct your fellow students if acting is not your cup of tea! The ability to act is secondary to the necessity of having a strong interest in theatre, how it works and why.

Will it get me a job or a place at university?

Yes. Drama and Theatre is recognised as a qualification that equips students with a wide range of personal, social and academic skills which are useful in a wide variety of higher education courses and careers. Some previous students have moved into the professions listed below:

Social Services
Personnel Management
Broadcasting
Teaching
Legal Services
Marketing and Advertising
Retailing
Occupational and Speech Therapy
Nursing

Oh yes...and Theatre of course!

What will I get out of the course?

This course will develop your skills as a performer and will challenge you academically. It is not an easy subject and will certainly take up a lot of your time, especially when preparing for the practical exams. At this point you will be expected to arrange additional rehearsals and give up time both at lunch, after school and on some weekends. Having said that, it is a very enjoyable and rewarding course. It gives you the opportunity to express yourself creatively, to work closely with others and to enjoy all aspects of the theatrical process. You will learn how to devise and perform effective drama, how to light your work, how to stage it and how to present it. You will also get the chance to see how playwrights, practitioners and actors have shaped the world of the stage as we now know it. Most importantly, however, the subject is a great confidence builder...and we all need that!



It's great fun. Give it a go!