Subject: Drama and Theatre (AQA)

Subject Leader: Miss Phoebe Richards

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This course covers the following key topics:

Performing: 2 out of the 3 components in the A Level Exam are performance based. One involves devising and creating theatre influenced by a relevant Practitioner and the other is script-based work where you will log your development through practical exploration of 3 separate plays. You will work closely with others to produce performance, demonstrating skills developed over the process of the course.

Text-Based: You will study 2 plays, "A Servant to Two Masters" by Carlo Goldini – a Commedia Dell'Arte play which explores comedy, farce, mask work and physical theatre, and "Our Country's Good" by Timberlake Wertenbaker - a play set in the 18th century exploring relationships, sexuality, punishment and the idea that it is possible for theatre to be "a humanising force!"

Live Performance: Part of your written exam is based on analysis and evaluation of live performance. You will have opportunities to attend local theatres (this year we have already been to see 'Our Country's Good' at the Lyric Theatre in London and 'Come From Away' at Norwich Theatre Royal) as well as watch recordings of previous live productions.

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Recommended research and live performance:

National Theatre Archives, National Theatre at Home, Digital Theatre Plus, Drama Online, London Theatre.

Current A Level Drama students say:

"I love the sense of community in drama. We can be as strange as we like with no judgement!"

We love teaching this course because it explores a such a wide range of theatre and performance and offers the students many opportunities to express themselves creatively.

A Level students have a lot of autonomy on this course, and it is wonderful watching them grow both performatively and as people, developing their abilities to problem solve, communicate and cooperate with their peers successfully.

At CNS we offer opportunities to be involved with the National Youth Theatre and work with Guildhall School of Music and Drama. There is also a huge amount to be a part of on our extracurricular calendar, including the school musical, National Theatre Connections, a Christmas Pantomime and CNS Fest!



What future pathways are open to me if I study Drama and Theatre?

Studying drama opens up many opportunities in the creative sector.

Jobs such as: An actor, director, stage manager, costume/lighting/props designer, scriptwriter, dancer, singer, agent, casting director, producer.

Many drama students also go on to study law, teaching and business.