

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DRAMA & THEATRE

Rochdale
sixth form
college

1

WHAT THEATRE TRIPS/EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES ARE THERE?

Usually we go to see a live piece of theatre at least once a year, and often have practitioners come in and run practical workshops with students. We have previously run residential trips to London to go to the theatre, and participate in workshops at the Globe and RSFC.

2

WHAT IF I HAVEN'T DONE DRAMA AT GCSE?

Our usual college entry requirements apply, as well as a grade 4 in Drama, and a grade 4 in English Language. However, in some circumstances, where a student can evidence strong experience of performing outside of school, we may accept a student who has not got a GCSE in Drama. (Or an equivalent Btec in Acting). This is because some schools limit choices in the performing arts areas, but a student has developed their practical ability outside of School, such as at a Theatre school. These are handled as individual cases and are very much based on individual experience. Please speak to Rachel or Kelly if this applies.

3

HOW MUCH WRITING IS THERE?

There is a strong written element to the Drama A level. The A level is split into 3 Components. Component 1 is a devised practical performance, which then has written coursework, Component 2 is 100% practical and Component 3 is a written exam. All theory components are taught using practical workshops, and so the course ends up spending roughly 50% of the time doing practical work and 50% of the time doing written theory.

4

DO I HAVE TO ACT?

No! Although Component 1 and 2 have mandatory practical elements- you don't HAVE to be assessed on your acting in these. It could be that your interests lie in the design and technical side. We have had students previously enter as design candidates before. You could choose between acting, lighting, sound, costume or set design. However, you are expected to still participate in practical acting workshops across the course, in the same way as students assessed in acting, will take part in learning technical skills.