

Welcome to Sir Thomas Rich's School

Drama Department - EDUQAS A Level Drama & Theatre

This booklet contains information about starting your A Level in Drama and Theatre. Please complete the tasks set in this booklet to hand in during the first week in September. If you have any questions or issues, please email: clr@strs.org.uk

You will study five different plays. The texts chosen will represent a range of genres and practitioners and social, historical, and cultural contexts. The course is examined over three components.

<p>Component 1: Theatre Workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You take part in the creation, development, and performance of a piece of theatre based on a reinterpretation of an extract from a play text. The piece must be developed using the techniques and working methods of either an influential theatre practitioner or a recognised theatre company. You will produce: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A realisation of the performance or design A creative log 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internally assessed. 20% of your A Level. Externally moderated. <p>ASSESSED: Spring of Yr. 12</p>
<p>Component 2: Text in Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You will take part in the development of and performance/design or two pieces of theatre based on a stimulus supplied by the board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A devised piece using the techniques and working methods of either an influential theatre practitioner or a recognised theatre company (this must be different to the one chosen for component 1.) 2. An extract from a text in a different style and or practitioner. You will realise your performance/ design live for the visiting examiner. You will produce a process and evaluation report within one week of completion of the practical work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed by a visiting examiner. 40% of your A Level. <p>ASSESSED: Spring Yr.13</p>
<p>Component 3: Text in Performances</p> <p>You will have clean copies of the text in the exam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section A: Two questions – <i>Home, I'm Darling</i> (Laura Wade) Section B: One question – <i>The Arsonists</i> (Max Frisch) Section C: Questions based on an extract from <i>The Book of Dust - La Belle Sauvage</i> (Bryony Lavery and Philip Pullman). <div data-bbox="256 1619 528 2020"> </div> <div data-bbox="536 1619 807 2020"> </div> <div data-bbox="810 1619 1082 2020"> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written exam 2 hours 30 mins 40 % of your A Level.

Resources, Equipment and Reading List

A lot of drama lessons will combine practical and theoretical study. For that reason, you should be ready to work actively and physically. Your sixth form uniform will often be too restrictive. Be ready to change into the following:

- Loose fitting trousers, joggers or gym leggings

You will require the following equipment:

- **TWO RING BINDERS:** ONE to be kept at home and ONE to be brought into school for every drama lesson with the booklets needed for the classwork. Please note – the expectation at STRS is that it is your responsibility to keep your files neat and to move work into the relevant filing system at home, so you have revision notes available for Year 13.
- **DIVIDERS:** Divide each ring binder under the following headings:
 - ✓ Component 1
 - ✓ Component 2
 - ✓ Component 3: 'Home, I'm darling'
 - ✓ Component 3: 'The Arsonists'
 - ✓ Component 3: 'Book of Dust'
- Lined paper
- Pens, highlights and pencils.
- Copies of your set texts – please have these for the first week of Year 12. The term starts with 'Home I'm Darling'

Playwright	Title:	ISBN
Laura Wade	Home, I'm Darling	978-1-350-27549-2
Max Frisch	The Arsonists	978-1-4081-0393-7
Philip Pullman/Bryony Lavery	The Book of Dust – La Bella Sauvage	978-1-83904-030-6

Summer tasks

Task 1: Read 'Home, I'm Darling'

Complete a summary of the main ideas and themes – this can be completed in any format of your choosing – be creative! Read around the play and how it was created and realised. Add your research to your Component 3 folder under the 'Home, I'm Darling' tab.

Task 2: Theatre Practitioner and/or Theatre Company Research

A theoretical and practical understanding of practitioners and theatre companies underpins the entire course. You will need to choose your own practitioners and apply them to the practical and theoretical work in all three components.

From the list below, choose at least TWO Practitioners or Theatre Companies to research.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stanislavski• Brecht• Artaud• Boal• Stephen Berkoff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Katie Mitchell• Frantic Assembly• Complicité• Splendid Productions• The Paper Birds
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Your research needs to have clear headings and include relevant pictures, imagery, text, and keywords. Be Creative!

1. Write a short biography of the person, company, or individuals in the company.
2. Look into the social, historical, cultural, and political (SCHP) context of their work.

Social: what society is / was like at the time.

Historical: What major world/national/local (to them) events have happened that might be shaping their work?

Cultural: What are the cultural concerns or themes shaping their work? What artistic, cultural, literary, and theatrical trends were prevalent?

Political: the government or politics of the time

3. The conventions / techniques of their theatrical style or genre
4. Contemporaneous and contemporary productions of their work – how has their work been received? Find reviews and accounts.
5. What other practitioners influenced them and who was influenced in turn by their work?
6. Rehearsal techniques, devising methods and exercises they use.

Useful websites: <http://essentialdrama.com/practitioners>

Task 3: Watch digital theatre

Watch as much live/ recorded theatre as possible.

Keep notes of what you watch including ideas about: movement, characterisation, staging, lighting, costume, sound etc.

Use our login below for Drama Online to watch digital theatre - <https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com>

Log in:

- **Username:** 9QwG1Tx&cY
- **Password:** 4DvG2Qc&z(