

# Sir Roger Manwood's School

## A Level Drama & Theatre

### Year 11 Induction: Summer Tasks 2025

As preparation for starting your A Level in Drama & Theatre in September, I would like you to complete the following tasks over the summer holidays please:

#### Task 1:

**Learn a published monologue\*** of your choice ready for an audition during the first full week of the new term in September 2025. Annotate a paper copy of the monologue in terms of HOW you intend to perform it. **The performance should be no more than two minutes long.**

#### Task 2:

**Create a one-page (A3) information document on one of the following theatre companies'/theatre practitioners;**

- Frantic Assembly
- Complicitee
- Punchdrunk
- Stanislavski
- Brecht
- Boal
- Artaud
- Berkoff
- Katie Mitchell
- Marianne Elliott
- Polly Teale
- Julie Taymor

- Rupert Goold

Examine their methods, ideologies and practice in relation to their approach to creating theatre and any examples of their work you can find out about.

Knowledge and understanding of practitioners underpin the whole course. You will need to choose your own practitioners and apply them to the practical and theoretical work in all three components

**Use a variety of sources, books, videos and websites to complete the following sections for your A3 poster:**

- 1. Write a biography of the person, company or individuals in the company**
- 2. Look into the social, historical, cultural and political context that their work existed or exists in:**
  - Social - what was society like at that time
  - Historical - what major events shaped the age
  - Cultural - what artistic, cultural, literary and theatrical trends were prevalent
  - Political - the government and politics of the time
  - Social - what is society like, what cultural concerns or themes are shaping their work?
  - Historical - what recent world events might be influencing their work?
  - Cultural - current trends
  - Political - the political landscape which shaped their work
- 3. Conventions 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.**

### Task 3:

**Go and see some live theatre!** As a Drama and Theatre student it is important that you see live theatre as often as possible! Go and see something – preferably a play – over the summer and write a review of it. The Stage newspaper is a good source of published reviews to give you an idea of style and content. If you cannot get to the theatre – there are lots of recordings of plays on-line e.g. the RSC website and the Royal National Theatre website. Aim to write between about 1000 words. You may e-mail it to me during the summer if you would like me to proof-read it. **My e-mail address is:**

[s.mount@srms.kent.sch.uk](mailto:s.mount@srms.kent.sch.uk)

### Extra Task:

Drama & Theatre Studies students may also read one of our three set texts for Component 3:

1. *A Winter's Tale* by Shakespeare
  2. *Blood Wedding* by Federico Garcia Lorca
  3. *The Book of Dust: La Belle Sauvage* by Philip Pullman and adapted by Bryony Lavery (play version)
- **All the above tasks must be completed by the first full week of September.**
  - **The performance/presentation tasks will be used to judge your suitability for the A level course alongside your GCSE result, so please prepare thoroughly.**
  - **Please remember to ALWAYS dress appropriately for Drama & Theatre lessons – i.e. tracksuit bottoms/leggings and trainers. You must always be ready to participate in practical work as this forms the foundation of what we do in this subject area. Bring appropriate clothing to lessons to change into.**

**Good luck! I look forward to teaching you in September! Mr Mount**

\*I have a range of monologues you can borrow if you cannot find one of your own but there are plenty on-line!