



11th September 2025

Dear Parents / Carers

Re: Punch at The Apollo Theatre – Thursday 9 October 2025

As part of the OCR GCSE Drama course, students sit a final exam in Year 11 which includes a section where students must write an extended answer on evaluating live theatre.

To ensure all students have the most support possible in preparing for this section of their exam, we organise as many trips to see all kinds of theatre as regularly as we can. We have been able to secure tickets to see “**Punch**” at The Apollo Theatre, Shaftsbury Avenue. We are treating this as a compulsory trip for all GCSE Drama students and the play will be used to support mock exam preparation for both Year 10 and 11. There are also a very limited number of tickets available for Year 9 Drama students who are considering taking GCSE Drama in Year 10. Here’s a quick bit about the play:

From Olivier Award-winning writer James Graham (Dear England, This House, BBC’s Sherwood), Punch brings Jacob Dunne’s extraordinary true story to the stage in a gripping, high-energy and deeply moving production.

Jacob Dunne, a teenager from Nottingham, spends his Saturday nights seeking thrills with his friends. One fateful evening, an impulsive punch leads to fatal consequences. After serving prison time, Jacob finds himself lost and directionless. Searching for answers, Joan and David – the parents of his victim James – ask to meet, sparking a profound transformation in Jacob’s life.

A powerful true story of hope, humanity, and the possibility of change.

This production is dedicated to James Hodgkinson and all victims of one-punch.

More images can be found following this link: [Punch - Apollo Theatre](#)

The total cost for each student is £36, this includes their ticket, insurance and transport to and from the venue. If there are any issues in making payment, please email j.glover@passmoresacademy.com to discuss financial options. Pupils are not required to wear school uniform for this trip, although they should dress appropriately for the theatre.

Pupils are required to meet Mrs Glover at Passmores, at 4.45pm, where they will register before embarking the coach and travelling to The Apollo theatre, Shaftsbury Ave, London. We should return to Passmores around 11.15 - 11.30pm. Parents will be expected to collect their child due to the late hour.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Glover." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a period at the end.

Jade Glover

Drama Teacher

j.glover@passmoresacademy.com