

# They Called on the Inspector

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Over 200 Year 10 students and staff from Sittingbourne Community College travelled to London to see Stephen Daldry's multi award-winning production of JB Priestley's classic thriller, *An Inspector Calls*, at the famous Playhouse Theatre. This National Theatre production has been seen by more than four million people around the world.

Set in 1912, *An Inspector Calls* revolves around the lives of the wealthy Birling family during the beginnings of the class struggles that led to the General Strike of 1929. A

mysterious inspector interrupts their celebrations to question each of them about the unfortunate end to a working class girl named Eva Smith.

"It was fun travelling on the coach up to London," said Ben Shawsmith, Year 10 student at SCC. "I liked the performance. It seemed to be a bit slow at the start, but once the Inspector arrived it got more exciting. The best bit was what happened to the house on stage, but I don't want to spoil it for others."

The Year 10 students are studying *An Inspector Calls* as part of their English Literature GCSE course and having read the play, this was the chance to see the play as J. B. Priestley intended: with live actors and the unique theatre experience.

"Our students have impressed me again," said Miss Lorman, Head of English at SCC. "Not only have they shown passionate opinions about the social injustices the play explores, they thoroughly enjoyed the experience of seeing a real play, by professional actors and directors in a beautiful London theatre. No doubt, they will carry these memories beyond their exams."

