

# PERFORMING ARTS

## Course

National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts

## Exam Board

Pearson

## Entry requirements

Clear evidence of performance skills. Entrance may be subject to an audition if you have not studied Drama or Performing Arts at GCSE. GCSE English Language or Literature Grade 4

## Why choose this course?

The BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts has been specifically designed to enable students to explore a wide range of performance elements. As well as providing training in acting, students may be able to tailor their course to suit their performing abilities in dance and singing also. This course also emphasises the skills that employers are looking for, including team work, self-confidence, communication skills, self-motivation and the ability to meet targets. This course builds the skills needed for a career in the Performing Arts industry and is equivalent to one A-Level.

## What do I need to know about the course?

- All units are completed through a mixture of practical and written coursework.
- Two units are externally assessed and two are internally assessed and verified by the exam board.
- You will be provided with opportunities to develop a range of performing skills and techniques, as well as, personal skills and attributes that are essential for successful performance in working life.
- There is a large amount of practical ensemble work meaning that effective communication skills and an ability to work productively as part of a group are essential and will be developed.
- You will need to keep a reflective log book to record the creative journey and evaluate your work.
- There is a written unit which concentrates on your written ability to critically analyse.
- Plenty of opportunity is given for students to perform their work, whether scripted or devised, to a live audience in the theatre. Performances are recorded and used as evidence for external examinations and moderations.

## Course content

### Unit 1: Investigating Practitioner's Work

This unit requires students to investigate the work of performing arts practitioners, develop critical analysis skills and contextual understanding of how practitioners communicate themes in their work.

### Unit 2: Developing Skills & Techniques for Live Performance

This unit allows students to explore technical performance skills with a focus on developing and demonstrating skills and techniques in at least two performance styles within a selected discipline. Students will participate in regular workshops, classes and exercises where they will acquire the necessary skills to help you succeed in performing live to an audience.

### Unit 3: Group Performance Workshop

This unit requires students to work in small groups to create an original performance piece in response to a stimulus provided by the external assignment brief. Students will take part in workshops, experimenting with devising and/or choreographic methods, before drawing on their individual performance skills. They will demonstrate an understanding of the methods and techniques for creating performance in order to contribute to the making of new performance material.

### Optional Unit

This unit allows students to select a unit to study which will utilise their collective skills. It is an opportunity for students to choose to work in a more specialist area or to contribute collaboratively using a range of disciplines. It may also provide opportunities to work on performances within a community setting.

Options available are:

**Unit 12: Contemporary Dance Technique**

**Unit 14: Choreography for Live Performance**

**Unit 19: Acting Styles**

**Unit 22: Movement in Performance**

**Unit 27: Musical Theatre Techniques**

**Unit 28: Variety Performance**

### Progression after Sixth Form

Students who take this course usually have a deep love of the arts and performance. Many students progress to university or drama/dance schools to continue to develop their skills.

**For more information contact Head of Drama:**

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Course available subject to numbers