



BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts

Course Information

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts is designed for post-16 students, with an interest in the performing arts, who want to continue their education through applied learning. The qualification is equivalent in size to 1 A-Level and is designed to occupy one-third of a typical study programme, which could include other vocational or academic qualifications such as another BTEC National or A Levels. The three mandatory units focus on:

Investigating Practitioners' Work – critical analysis and extended writing skills that aim to support students' progress to higher education. As possible performing arts practitioners, students will gain a good understanding of the work of influential practitioners to inform their own work and practice.

Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance- where students will develop the appropriate skills and techniques in various performance disciplines such as acting, dance, musical theatre and physical theatre.

Group Performance – students will develop physical techniques, as well as wider transferable skills such as being able to work collaboratively, personal management and organisation, being able to take and give direction, confidence in front of an audience and team work.

Additional opportunities

For anyone who is not ready to join on the BTEC course please do come and speak to us about the other opportunities that we offer. As always you will be able to take part in a range of extra-curricular performances and trips if you wish and we are even planning a performing arts trip to Greece in 2020.

Career Pathway

As well as preparing students who wish to apply to traditional acting and drama schools, the course is also useful for other career paths. Universities offer Theatre and Drama degrees as single honours or combined courses. Some institutions offer Creative or Performance Arts degrees where theatre can be combined with other arts subjects such as Film, Music, Dance, Art, Design and Photography. Students may also follow careers into stage management, theatre administration and theatre production.

The skills gained from this course can be used in education, therapy, community work and in the expanding leisure and media industries. Participation in the performing arts develops team skills, empathy and self-confidence, as well as being a strong academic discipline. It nurtures several skills essential for careers outside the arts such as management, for example, or any context in which strong interpersonal skills are important.

Student Destinations

We are very proud as a Department that many of our students choose to continue their study through either Degree level study or through the traditional acting and drama school route. We actively support our 6th Form Students with both their UCAS and CUKAS applications and also provide support for the audition process where appropriate.

Should you like to receive any additional information on this course please contact Mrs Marie Hood, Head of Department.