



BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Performing Arts

Key contact:

Mrs Reddy (Head of Performing Arts) and Miss McGarry

Exam Board:

Pearson EDEXCEL

Overview of the course:

This two-year course provides an excellent stepping stone for those wishing to pursue a career in Performing Arts, or who would like to progress onto an appropriately related course or occupation. This course would lead to a BTEC Extended Certificate in Performing Arts (equivalent to one A Level) and can be studied alongside other BTEC qualifications or A Levels to support progression of knowledge in the sector of Performing Arts. Having additional studies alongside this qualification allows students to obtain a wider breadth of subject knowledge, especially if choosing a contrasting subject. Likewise, students can choose subjects which lend more focus to pursuing a Performing Arts career, in subjects such as A Level Drama and Theatre Studies, Dance or Music.

Where the BTEC in Performing Arts differs from A Level is that it has practical led elements which drive the course. Students should expect to be involved in rehearsal and performance activities at a consistently high standard, which requires a great deal of focus, discipline and professionalism. Students will be taught by three specialist subjects within their field, of acting, singing and dancing, so standards will be high.

The BTEC will provide students with the opportunity to learn, enhance, and combine three key Performing Arts skills to a professional standard, of acting, singing and dancing. Through its approach students will gain a unique understanding of the focus and discipline needed in order to perform.

What will you study?

The BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts is 360 guided learning hours (GLH) qualification that consists of four units. Three are mandatory, with two of those being externally assessed, and two internally assessed. Mandatory content makes up 83% of your BTEC.

Mandatory Units:

- Investigating Practitioners' Work 90GLH, mandatory, externally assessed.
- Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance 90GLH, mandatory internally assessed.
- Group Performance Workshop 120 GLH, mandatory, externally assessed.

Specialist Units:

- Unit 27: Musical Theatre Performance 60GLH, optional, internally assessed.

Assessment

Practical work, supported by portfolio work, which is on-going alongside a unit, 58% of your practical and written work will be externally assessed, 42% internally.

Possible career path?

Possible careers include:

- Higher education
- Performing Arts / Dance / Drama school
- Member of Theatre/Performing Arts company
- Actor/ Dance/Director in film, television or media
- Teacher or workshop facilitator
- Manager/leadership
- Communication based job requiring well rounded and confident employees

Previous destinations of past students

Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts, Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts, East 15, Bird College of Dance and the Institute of the Arts Barcelona.

Entry requirements

Ideally five GCSEs Grade 9-5, including Drama, English and Mathematics. However, in the absence of Drama qualifications we would expect students to have some performance experience and extra-curricular engagement within the performing arts. Students will be expected to work as a group at the start of the course in order to assess their suitability for this course.

Performance Opportunities:

When enrolled upon the class, students will also be expected to participate in the following extra-curricular events as part of the course, often linked to assessment points, alongside developing live performance skill.

- Performing Arts Show or College Production
- Open Evenings
- Awards Evenings
- Primary Festivals and Events
- Christmas Carol Service
- Musical Theatre Show
- Year 12 Transition to Performing Arts Students