



BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Performing Arts

Key contact: Mrs Reddy (Head of Performing Arts) and Ms Ruskin (Course Leader)
Exam Board: EDEXCEL

Overview of the course:

This two-year course provides an excellent stepping stone for those wishing to pursue a career in the Performing Arts, or would like to progress onto an appropriately related course or occupation. This course will lead to a Level 3 Diploma in Performing Arts (equivalent to two A Levels) and can be studied alongside other BTEC Nationals or A Levels to support progression to higher education courses in performing arts areas before entering employment. The additional qualification(s) studied allow learners either to give breadth to their study programme by choosing a contrasting subject, or to give it more focus by choosing a complementary subject, such as A Level Drama, Dance or Music or BTEC Nationals in Music.

Where the BTEC in Performing Arts differs from A Level is that it is much more practical in nature. You 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.

The course provides students with the opportunity to learn, enhance, and combine the three key Performing Arts skills, of acting, dance and singing. Through this approach students gain a unique insight into working within the Performing Arts industry. Students will work together, in a similar way to that of a professional performance company, to produce a variety of exciting and memorable performances. A non-performing pathway is available for those who are interested in the technical aspects of theatre production. Students on the Production Arts pathway will work alongside the performers but will study units in Lighting, Sound and Stage Management.

What will you study?

The EDEXCEL BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Performing Arts is a 720 guided learning hours (GLH) qualification that consists of six mandatory units plus two specialist units.

Mandatory Units:

- Investigating Practitioners' Work 90GLH
- Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance 90GLH
- Group Performance Workshop 120 GLH
- Performing Arts in the Community 90GLH
- Individual Performance Commission 120GLH
- Final Live Performance to an Audience 90GLH

Specialist Units:

- Musical Theatre Performance 60GLH
- Singing Techniques for Performers 60GLH

Assessment

Practical work, supported by portfolio work, will take place throughout the course. 54% of your work will be internally assessed and 46% will be externally assessed.

Possible career path?

Possible careers include:

- Higher education
- Performing Arts/ Drama school
- Member of Theatre/Performing Arts Company
- Film/ Television/ Media (e.g. Actor, Dancer, Director)
- Teaching
- Arts Administrator
- Workshop Leader
- Any communication based job requiring well rounded and confident employees

Entry requirements

Ideally five GCSEs Grade 9-5, including English and Mathematics.

Level 2 Drama qualifications such as a GCSE are not necessarily entry requirements, but in the absence of these we would expect students to have some performance experience and extra-curricular engagement in the performing arts.

Applicants will be expected to perform as part of a group at the start of the course in order to assess their suitability for this course.