

PERFORMING ARTS (ACTING)

EDEXCEL

BTEC NATIONAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

Entry Requirements	Clear evidence of performance skills; entrance could be subject to an audition. GCSE Grade 4 in English Language or English Literature desirable.
Head of Department or Course Contact	Mr J Bard
Contact E-Mail Address	jbard@stedmunds.org

Brief introduction to subject:

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 can 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.

The course enables students to develop their performance skills to a high level and to learn the graft and craft of acting. Students will be provided with opportunities to develop practical understanding of the skills and knowledge, alongside critical analysis skills and contextual understanding of practitioners' work. This course builds the skills needed for a career in the Performing Arts industry and is equivalent to one A-Level.

BTEC Performing Arts is taught in the consortium and the course content below is intended as a guide only. Please contact Mr Bard for more information.

Progression to Career/ University Courses:

This course opens up a range of pathways upon completion. With its vocational focus, the course leads very well further study of Performing Arts courses at Higher Education or Specialist Institutes. It will also help to prepare students to work in the performing industry. Studies alongside other A-Levels, it also offers a complementary education for those with a clear interest in Performing Arts.

Key Points:

- All units are completed through a mixture of practical and written coursework.
- Two units are externally assessed and two are internally assessed and verified in school.
- 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.

Year 12	
<p style="text-align: center;">Unit 1</p> <p>Title: Investigating Practitioners Work</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Students will be assessed through a task worth 60 marks and completed under supervised conditions for three hours. Prior to the assessment students have a five week period in order to carry out research and preparatory work.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Unit 2</p> <p>Title: Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance</p> <p>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.</p> <p>This unit is internally assessed through performance of the two styles, accompanied with an ongoing working log.</p>
<p>Assessment: Pass, Merit and Distinction criteria. 25% of course Maximum Marks available: Distinction</p> <p>Information regarding Assessment: Externally assessed by the awarding body.</p>	<p>Assessment: Pass, Merit and Distinction criteria. 25% of course Maximum Marks available: Distinction</p> <p>Information regarding Assessment: Tutor marked Internal verification within school. Grades are subject to awarding body validation.</p>
Year 13	
<p style="text-align: center;">Unit 19</p> <p>Title: Acting Styles – Subject to change</p> <p>For this unit students will need to engage in practical workshop classes to develop their acting technique. They will be introduced to the theories and techniques of key Drama practitioners, utilising them practically in applying the techniques to their rehearsal and creative process.</p> <p>Students will need to participate in rehearsals before performing two different pieces to a live audience. Assessment is of the presentation of the two pieces, as well as the completion of a working log.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Unit 3</p> <p>Title: Group Performance Workshop</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Students are externally assessed on their final performance alongside their working log.</p>
<p>Assessment: Pass, Merit and Distinction criteria. 17% of course Maximum Marks available: Distinction</p> <p>Information regarding Assessment: Tutor marked Internal verification within school. Grades are subject to awarding body validation.</p>	<p>Assessment: Pass, Merit and Distinction criteria. 33% of course Maximum Marks available: Distinction</p> <p>Information regarding Assessment: Externally assessed by awarding body.</p>