

PERFORMING ARTS BTEC

For Drama, Dance or Performing Arts Students

Qualifications offered in Post 16

**BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate In Performing Arts
(equivalent to One full A level—4 lessons per week in Year One and Two)**

Performing Arts focuses on performance as an actor, musical theatre performer or dancer.

Please read the information about BTEC courses carefully

BTEC's are vocational courses, that is to say they are based on practical experience as if one was working in the chosen area rather than academic study.

BTEC's allow students to gain entry to both University and employment in the same way A levels do.

They are assessed through a series of units taken throughout the course some of which are internally assessed and some externally.

Many Units/Assignments lead to a practical performance which forms a major part of the evidence.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students may specialise in Acting, Dance or Musical Theatre within their qualification. Extensive previous experience in one or more PA subjects is essential but you do not necessarily need a GCSE in a PA subject but they must have extensive experience as performers. A Grade 4 in English is essential. Production Arts students need the same sort of qualification and experience and a love of a range of theatre is a distinct advantage.

BTEC LEVEL 3 EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN PERFORMING ARTS

Each unit is individually marked (Distinction, Merit, Pass or fail) and a portfolio of evidence must be produced which demonstrates the candidates work for that unit or in the case of externally assessed units, set tasks and tests must be completed.

A portion of this evidence will be written but will also be in the form of video and annotated photographs, diaries and log books.

Work is marked by teachers or externally at the end of each unit.

All marks are externally verified. This is a very strict process.

BTEC's require constant work and attendance. While students will be expected to work independently, they will constantly be working in teams and be reliant on each other.

All students on BTEC Level 3 courses perform publicly on a regular basis to assess their practical skills.

Students following BTEC Level 3 courses would also be expected to rehearse for and appear in at least one major production a year outside of lesson time—either the Christmas or Summer productions or a performance with another company.

BTEC Level Three Performing Arts Extended Certificate—Units Studied

Unit 1	Investigating Practitioners' Work
Unit 2	Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance
Unit 3	Group Performance Workshop
Unit 10	Jazz Dance Technique (dancers only)
Unit 19	Acting Styles (actors only)
Unit 27	Musical Theatre Techniques

BTEC LEVEL 3 QUALIFICATIONS IN PERFORMING ARTS

QUESTIONS

“Do you have to have taken a GCSE in Drama, Dance, Music, Performing Arts or Expressive Arts to follow this course?”

Normally yes, but if you can demonstrate a regular and significant commitment to one of the above areas that would also be acceptable.

What skills will it develop?

Organisational skills of both people and material. This course requires very high levels of independent learning from students and an ability to meet deadlines is essential. Very often that deadline will involve paying members of the public as an audience! Communication skills – essential in any form of work. Subject specific skills.

This course is great if you enjoy a lot of very practical involvement in the Performing Arts, especially being involved in all aspects of putting on a performance. It could provide a qualification for going on to a Performing Arts related course in Higher Education, or direct entry to the PA industry. Students who have already completed the course have been very successful in moving into both areas. You must be prepared to be heavily involved in extra curricular Performing Arts either in or out of college.

For more information, help or advice about BTEC Level 3 Qualifications in Performing Arts,
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