

# BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts

Exam Board: EDEXCEL



**ASPIRE TO EXCELLENCE**

## Course Content

Performing Arts is placed at the heart of school life. Students who take the course can expect to be challenged in a wide array of acting disciplines. In addition, students will have access to a purpose-built drama studio and a range of professional sound and lighting equipment. The course also offers students the opportunity to participate in many large-scale productions throughout the year, including musical theatre, Shakespeare, modern drama and variety shows. During the course, students will have tuition from specialist staff in acting. The skills that are learned and refined are then applied to productions and individual performances. The course is also designed to allow students to explore the reality of the performing arts industry; for this to happen students visit performing arts organisations and research theatre history as well as investigate modern theatre conventions.

## Assessment

The course is assessed through a combination of performances, portfolio-based coursework and two externally examined units. The externally examined units centre upon the creation of written work and practical performance and presentation; the work for both units is produced in controlled conditions over a designated period of time. The written elements of the course are heavily based on research with professionals and professional organisations, as well as charting the progress of individual students' progression.

Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners Work

Unit 2: Developing Skills for Live Performance

Unit 3: Group Workshop Performance

Unit 19: Acting Skills

## What do I need to study this subject?

A passion for performance, an ability to think creatively and a willingness to think outside the box. BTEC Performing Arts Level 3 requires students to conduct independent and in-depth research on a variety of performance styles, genres and practitioners. This research will then help inform your practical work, building on a foundation of drama basics: good use and control of voice, movement and character skills, to develop thrilling and explorative pieces of theatre.

## Career Opportunities

Whether it is working in the TV, film and theatre industries as a performer, director or writer or working in education as a drama/performing arts teacher, the **practical and creative** skills you develop are valuable in many wide and varied fields.

## Suggested Reading

Artaud, A. (2013). The Theatre and its double. Alma Classics Ltd.

Brown, J. (2001). The Oxford illustrated history of theatre. Oxford: Oxford Univ. Press.

Davies, D. (2011). The performing arts. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

Graham, S & Hogget S. (2014). The Frantic assembly book of devising. Taylor & Francis.

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Whyman, R. (2014). Stanislavski. London: Routledge.