



BTEC LEVEL 3 NATIONAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN PERFORMING ARTS (ACTING)

What does the course involve?

The BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing arts (Acting) two year course is equivalent to one A level. It is a four unit course that lets you develop your practical acting skills. This qualification gives a broad introduction to the performing arts sector. This course is for learners who are interested in learning about the performing arts sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in performing arts. It is designed to be taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels.

The three mandatory units focus on:

- Research – critical analysis and extended writing skills that aim to support students' progress to higher education. As possible performing arts practitioners, students will gain a good understanding of the work of influential practitioners to inform their own work and practice (Unit 1 – Investigating Practitioners' Work Externally Assessed).
- An induction into the performing arts – where students will develop the appropriate skills and techniques in various performance disciplines such as acting, musical theatre and physical theatre (Unit 2 – Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance).
- Group performance – students will develop the essential psychomotor and affective skills essential for the performing arts. They will develop physical techniques, as well as wider transferable skills such as being able to work collaboratively, personal management and organisation (rehearsals, time management), being able to give and take direction, confidence in front of an audience, problem solving (refining the process) and team work (essential when acting as a group). (Unit 3 – Group Performance Workshop Externally Assessed).

The fourth unit is optional from the following list:

- Unit 18 - Interpreting Classical Text for Performance
- **Unit 19 - Acting Styles**
- Unit 20 - Developing the Voice for Performance
- Unit 21 - Improvisation
- Unit 22 - Movement in Performance
- Unit 27 - Musical Theatre Techniques
- Unit 28 - Variety Performance

Students will understand different audiences in different environments and will learn to adapt a performance to engage the target audience.

The course is designed to help you further develop your understanding of historical, contemporary and related contexts to inform and inspire your own working practices. The knowledge and skills you have acquired through your learning so far are linked to new challenges, extending your critical independence and self-awareness, and preparing you to make relevant choices in your progression and career. You will respond to briefs and work to deadlines, preparing you for the realities of working in the creative sector. Units are assessed using a grading scale of Distinction, Merit and Pass.

What are the entry qualifications?

You must have achieved a grade 4 or better in English. It is mandatory to have taken Drama and achieved a grade 5 or Merit at GCSE level. It is important that you are interested in gaining an understanding of how theatre and plays work and you are keen to be involved with performances.

What could I do after completing the course?

- Higher Education courses in most subjects as well as Drama.
- Employers have identified the most important skills as leadership, management, interpersonal, innovation and creativity and verbal communication. Drama and Theatre Studies will help you to develop these skills.
- Careers in Acting, Theatre Design, Theatre Administration, Television, Teaching, Selling and Management following appropriate further training. It could be helpful for work requiring good communication skills and a thoughtful, understanding approach to others.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MISS KIRBY