



Teddington Sixth Form



**BTEC Level 3 National Extended
Certificate in
Performing Arts
Course Details & Transition Tasks
2020 – 2022**

PERFORMING ARTS BTEC LEVEL 3 NATIONAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

Do you see exciting work on a professional stage and aspire to that level of brilliance? As a BTEC Performing Arts student, you'll be part of a 'theatrical company' and be passionate in developing your own performing arts skills. You'll develop technique, performance skills, creativity, the ability to critically comment and a working understanding of how the Performing Arts industry operates. This course enables you to investigate influential professionals within the industry, develop and use skills as an actor, dancer and singer, create a portfolio of performances and learn about job roles within the industry. Developing your skills in musical theatre, jazz dance, singing techniques, screen acting, the course culminates in a final performance to a live audience.

Exam Board: Pearson

Course Duration: 2 years and should run alongside two other subjects at Sixth Form.

Course Led By: Kelly Jenkinson, Head of Drama

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to achieve average of Grade 4 and above across all GCSE results, with English & Maths at minimum of Grade 4.

WHO IS THIS BTEC FOR?

This BTEC is designed for students with an interest in performing arts who want to continue their education through applied learning, and who aim to progress to higher education. The qualification is equivalent in size to one A Level and is designed to occupy one-third of a typical study programme, which could include other vocational or academic qualifications, such as further BTEC Nationals or A Levels. This qualification gives a broad introduction to the performing arts sector with an emphasis on core knowledge and fundamental skills which are transferable across other sectors (including communication, presentation, physical and creative skills).

WHAT IS THE QUALIFICATION?

Equivalent in size to one A Level

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts 360 Guided Learning Hours (480 TQT): 4 units, of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external.

Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (58%). The Extended Certificate is for students 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 two other courses at Sixth Form.

WHAT IS THE COURSE CONTENT?

The course consists of 4 Units 3 Mandatory and one optional

Unit 1 – Investigating Practitioners (Externally marked) 29%

This unit is a written unit where a brief will be given to students 4 weeks before the exam where they will be able to make notes to take into the exam with them. The exam is 3hrs and consists of 3 Activities.

Unit 2 – Developing Skills and for Live Performance (Internally marked) 25%

This is a scripted performance and written log

Unit 3 – Group Performance Workshop (Externally marked) 29%

This is a devised performance and written log

Unit – Options 17% (Internally marked)

Examples of optional units include: - Acting Styles, interpreting classical text for performance, Improvisation, Musical Theatre techniques, variety and performance, Movement in performance, Developing the voice for performance.

This unit involves a performance and written log

WHAT COULD THIS QUALIFICATION LEAD TO?

BTEC Performing Arts opens a variety of pathways, beyond just careers in theatre. A range of routes at university are created, as well as developing a range of skills relevant in the wider world of work. Students would be well equipped to follow degree courses in Drama, English, Journalism/Media Studies, Stage-Management and Arts Management. In addition to fostering critical and creative skills, Theatre Studies also increases confidence and leadership skills along with training in teamwork.

STRUCTURE EXAMPLE

Mandatory Units:

Students must complete and achieve a Near Pass grade or above in all mandatory external units and achieve a Pass or above in the mandatory internal unit.

Optional Units:

Students must complete one optional unit.

Example: Acting Styles, interpreting classical text for performance, Improvisation, Musical Theatre techniques, variety and performance, Movement in performance, Developing the voice for performance.

EXTERNAL ASSESSMENTS

Unit 1 – Investigating Practitioners (Externally marked) 29%

This unit is a written unit where a brief will be given to students 4 weeks before the exam where they will be able to make notes to take into the exam with them. The exam is 3hrs and consists of 3 Activities.

Unit 3 – Group Performance Workshop (Externally marked) 29%

This is a devised performance and written log

WHY CHOOSE A BTEC

Today's BTEC Nationals are demanding, as you would expect of the most respected applied learning qualification in the UK. You will have to choose and complete a range of units, be organised, take some assessments that we will set and mark, and keep a portfolio of your assignments. But you can feel proud to achieve a BTEC because, whatever your plans in life – whether you decide to study further, go on to work or an apprenticeship, or set up your own business – your BTEC National will be your passport to success in the next stage of your life.

BTECs embody a fundamentally student-centred approach to the curriculum, with a flexible, unit-based structure and knowledge applied in project-based assessments. They focus on the holistic development of the practical, interpersonal and thinking skills required to be able to succeed in employment and higher education.

Employers are looking for recruits with a thorough grounding in the latest industry requirements and work-ready skills such as teamwork. Higher education needs students who have experience of research, extended writing and meeting deadlines.

We have addressed these requirements with:

- A range of BTEC sizes, each with a clear purpose, so there is something to suit each student's choice of study programme and progression plans
- Refreshed content that is closely aligned with employers' and higher education needs for a skilled future workforce
- Assessments and projects chosen to help students progress to the next stage. This means some are set by Teachers to meet local needs, while others are set and marked by Pearson so that there is a core of skills and understanding that is common to all students.

TRANSITION TASKS

Task 1

As part of the Btec you will be asked to evaluate and analyse your own work and that of other practitioners. Complete a review of a live theatre production. The more live /recorded theatre you can see in a range of different style the better.

Below we have listed some live recordings that are available at the moment;

National Theatre website the school's access details are:

<https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com>

Username: 9Qv*8Zo/b+ Password: 2Jk54Rk+r#

Plays Included are: -

- Yerma
- A Streetcar Named Desire
- Peter Pan
- Jane Eyre
- Medea
- Frankenstein
- The Cherry Orchard
- Lots of Shakespeare

There are many more available; have a look through and watch whatever takes your fancy, Yerma has got Billy Piper in it and is very good. Frankenstein with Benedict Cumberbatch got good reviews.

- Digital Theatre website
- Frantic Assembly Digital - Things I Know to be True
- There are also clips and resources on their website about other productions which are worth watching and looking at to get an idea of the style of their work.
- Complicite website
- Punchdrunk website
- KneeHigh website
- You Tube - Everyone's Talking About Jamie

You can watch as many as you like the variety of styles will be helpful once we start practical work.

Task 2

Write a review (no more than 1000 words) on one of the productions you have watched. Think about the following things:

- Use of space
- Actor/audience relationship
- Set
- Costume
- Props
- Lighting
- Sound (live or recorded)
- Special effects
- Scene changes
- Voice
- Movement
- Relationships/interaction
- Director interpretation
- Audience reaction

Task 3

Research here is a list of the prescribed practitioners on the spec choose 2 and create a poster with information about them on it. With a specific focus on the style and techniques they use.

- Pina Bausch
- Steven Berkoff
- Matthew Bourne
- Bertolt Brecht
- Peter Brook
- Christopher Bruce
- Cirque de Soleil
- Complicite
- DV8
- Bob Fosse
- Frantic Assembly
- Martha Graham
- Akram Khan
- Kneehigh
- Joan Littlewood
- Andrew Lloyd Webber
- Katie Mitchell
- Punchdrunk
- Stephen Sondheim
- Stanislavski

Summer Reading List *(Don't worry too much about these we have copies in the School Library once we're back you will be able to borrow them)*

- 'An Actor Prepares' by Konstantin Stanislavski
- 'Brecht on Theatre' by John Willett
- Any plays especially if they are written by one of the above practitioners.