



# Pearson BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Performing Arts (1 x A-Level equiv.)

## Why study Performing Arts?

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts is designed for post-16 students, with an interest in the performing arts, who want to continue their education through applied learning. As well as preparing students who wish to apply to traditional acting and drama schools, the course is also useful for other career paths. Universities offer Theatre and Drama degrees as single honours or combined courses. Some institutions offer Creative or Performance Arts degrees where theatre can be combined with other arts subjects such as Film, Music, Dance, Art, Design and Photography. Students may also follow careers into stage management, theatre administration and theatre production.

The skills gained from this course can be used in education, therapy, community work and in the expanding leisure and media industries. Participation in the performing arts develops team skills, empathy and self-confidence, as well as being a strong academic discipline. It nurtures several skills essential for careers outside the arts such as management, for example, or any context in which strong interpersonal skills are important.

## What is the course structure?

The qualification is equivalent in size to 1 A-Level and is designed to occupy one-third of a typical study programme, which could include other vocational or academic qualifications such as another BTEC National or A Levels. The three mandatory units focus on investigating practitioners' work, developing skills and techniques for live performance, and group performance.

### Year 12

Module 1 – Investigating Practitioners' Work

Module 2 – Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance

### Year 13

Module 3 – Group Performance Workshop

Module 22 – Movement in Performance

## Which activities will I be engaged in during the course?

Some units are internally assessed through coursework set and marked by the subject teachers. Two units are assessed externally, one through an examination and the second through a task book completed in exam conditions and set by the awarding body (Pearson). All assessments are marked against Pass, Merit and Distinction criteria to determine an overall grade for each Unit.

**Investigating Practitioners' Work** – 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.

**Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance** – where students will develop the appropriate skills and techniques in various performance disciplines such as acting, dance, musical theatre and physical theatre.

**Group Performance** – students will develop physical techniques, as well as wider transferable skills such as being able to work collaboratively, personal management and organisation, being able to take and give direction, confidence in front of an audience, and team work.



How can I prepare for the course?

The following websites might be useful if you're thinking about embarking on this course.

<https://www.thestage.co.uk/>

<https://creativeskillset.org>

<https://www.theatredesign.org.uk>

<https://www.entertainmentdesigner.com>

<https://uktheatre.org/>

Further information:

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