

# Performing Arts

## BTEC National Diploma in Performing Arts

**Subject** BTEC National Diploma in Performing Arts (Double)

**Exam Board** Edexcel

**Specification Numbers** 601/7232/0

**Teacher Responsible** Miss Cordell

**Introduction** The BTEC Diploma runs alongside the Extended Certificate, covering additional units and leading to a qualification equivalent to 2 A-Levels.

The Diploma is a practical, intense course for students who enjoy performing, directing, or writing drama. Students work as a theatre company on a wide range of performance projects and assignments, as well as learning about key theatre practitioners and playwrights to develop a range of specialist skills and knowledge in performance.

**Aims of the Course** The course is suitable both for students who want to go on to study drama, or those who are looking for a practical subject to balance more academic studies. There is no final written exam, however written coursework must be produced to a high standard and is demanding.

There are many in-house and public performances and students must be prepared to perform in front of audiences, putting in rehearsal time and preparation both within class and in their own time.

**How You Are Assessed** The 2-year course is continually assessed which means there are no final exams as such, however there are both practical and written tasks which are set and marked by the exam board throughout the year. 60% of the course is externally assessed via online submissions of written tasks and visiting examiners, with the remaining 40% marked by tutors and moderated by the exam board.

Around 90% of classwork is practical, but this does mean that students are expected to complete written assignments in their own study time. Written work includes keeping a detailed rehearsal diary, research, preparation for presentations, and reading scripts.

**Links to Future Careers** BTEC Level 3 qualifications are valued by employers and Higher Education (Universities and Colleges) and gain UCAS points in the same way as A-Levels. The vast majority of our students go on to university or drama school to study Performing Arts, Drama, Theatre Studies or a related subject. We also have an excellent track record with students gaining places at drama schools and dance colleges. The course equips students with confidence and excellent interpersonal skills to succeed in interviews and leads to a wide variety of careers, including work in the theatre, advertising, project management, PR, venue management, teaching, and journalism.

### Entry Requirement

Grade 4 in GCSE Drama or a Merit in a Level 2 BTEC in Performing Arts  
*\*If students have not previously studied Drama or Performing Arts, entry is via an audition and interview.*