



Performing Arts (Single)

Qualification type: BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

Exam Board: Pearson

What will I learn?

This course is for students with a strong interest in performance and the wider performing arts industry who want to continue their education through applied learning. It develops practical skills in **acting, dance or musical theatre**, alongside research and analysis of professional work.

You will:

- Explore the creative work of key theatre and dance practitioners.
- Develop technical, physical and interpretive skills for live performance.
- Work collaboratively to devise, rehearse and perform original material in response to a set stimulus.
- Gain insight into professional practice and the demands of the performing arts industry.

The qualification is equivalent to **one A Level** and supports entry to higher education courses in a wide range of disciplines including Drama, Dance, Musical Theatre and other creative degrees.

How is my work assessed?

Assessment is a mix of **external set tasks** and **internal coursework**.

Externally assessed units:

- **Unit 1 – Investigating Practitioners' Work:** research and written analysis of professional work.
- **Unit 3 – Group Performance Workshop:** devise and perform a piece in response to a stimulus.

Internally assessed units:

- **Unit 2 – Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance** and one optional specialist unit such as Acting Styles, Musical Theatre Techniques or Contemporary Dance.
Assessment methods include practical performance, rehearsal logs, research portfolios and written evaluations.

What should I consider before starting this subject?

Successful students are enthusiastic performers who are willing to **rehearse regularly**, work as part of a team and contribute creative ideas. Good organisation is important—there will often be more than one piece of coursework to complete at the same time. You should be confident performing in front of others and be prepared to analyse and evaluate your own work.

Why is this course useful and what might it lead to?

The qualification supports progression to:

- **University degrees** in Performing Arts, Drama, Dance or related creative subjects.
- **Specialist drama schools or conservatoires.**
- Careers in theatre, film, television, community arts, teaching or events.

The vocational nature of the course also builds transferable skills—communication, collaboration and time-management—valued in a wide range of careers.

Entry requirements

Minimum of **4 GCSEs at grade 4/C or above** (including English). A Level 2 Pass in a Performing Arts-related BTEC is helpful but not essential.

Where can I find out more information?

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/performing-arts-2016.html>



Performing Arts (Double)

Qualification type: BTEC Level 3 National Diploma

Exam Board: Pearson

What will I learn?

This two-year vocational course is for students who are passionate about acting, dance or musical theatre and want to continue their education through applied learning.

You will:

- Train and perform in a variety of styles, building technical, physical and interpretive skills.
- Explore the work of key theatre and dance practitioners and how their methods can shape your own creative practice.
- Devise, rehearse and perform original material in response to professional briefs.
- Gain an understanding of the performing arts industry and the demands of professional practice.

The National Diploma is equivalent to **two A Levels** and supports progression to higher education or specialist drama school.

How is my work assessed?

A combination of **externally set tasks** and **internally assessed coursework**.

Externally assessed units:

- **Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners' Work** – research and written analysis of professional performing arts practitioners.
- **Unit 3: Group Performance Workshop** – devise and perform a piece to a set stimulus under controlled conditions.
- **Unit 6: Final Live Performance to an Audience** – plan, rehearse and deliver a final performance to a professional brief.

Internally assessed units (centre selects from Pearson list), for example:

- **Unit 2: Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance**
- **Unit 5: Individual Performance Commission**
- **Unit 7: Employment Opportunities in the Performing Arts**
- Optional specialist technique units such as **Acting Styles, Movement in Performance, Musical Theatre Techniques** or **Physical Theatre Techniques**.

Assessment methods include live performances, rehearsal logs, research portfolios and written evaluations.

What should I consider before starting this subject?

You will need a genuine passion for performing arts and be willing to rehearse regularly, including outside of lesson time. Good organisation is essential as practical rehearsals run alongside written assignments. A collaborative attitude and confidence in performing to an audience are key to success.

Why is this course useful and what might it lead to?

The qualification prepares you for:

- **University degrees** in Performing Arts, Drama, Dance or Musical Theatre.
- **Drama school or conservatoire training.**
- Careers in theatre, film, television, dance companies, community arts or events management.

It also builds transferable skills such as teamwork, communication and time-management valued across many industries.

Entry requirements

Typically **4–5 GCSEs at grade 4/C or above**, including English. A Level 2 Pass in a related subject (such as BTEC Performing Arts or Dance) is helpful but not essential.

Where can I find out more information?

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/performing-arts-2016.html>