KS5 | Curriculum
Performing Arts Single

THE WALDERSLADE & GREENACRE SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Qualification type / Exam Board

BTEC National Extended Certificate / Pearson

What will I learn about?

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 more information?

Speak to Mrs. Leicester-Smith or go online:

BTEC Nationals | Performing Arts (2016) | Pearson qualifications