

## Why study Performing Arts – Drama?

### Core technical qualification

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts (Drama)

### What will you be learning?

The Extended Certificate is for pupils 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.

There are four units in the course that all link together creating a clear through thread and linking purpose. The content links highly with employers' needs and desires within the performing arts.

#### **Unit 1 – Investigating Practitioners' Work**

You will investigate the work of performing arts practitioners and develop critical analysis skills and contextual understanding of how practitioners communicate themes in their work. You will develop skills that allow you to investigate the work of influential work and analyse key developments. In this unit you will draw on learning from across the programme of study to complete assessment tasks.

#### **Unit 2 – Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance**

You will explore technical performance skills with a focus on developing skills and techniques in at least two performance styles. You will participate in regular workshops, classes, and exercises where you will acquire, practise and develop the necessary technical, practical and interpretive performance skills to help you to succeed when performing live to an audience. The skills you gain in this unit will prepare you for progression to further study, training or higher education by equipping yourself with practical and technical skills key to the development as a performer.

#### **Unit 3 – Group Performance Workshop**

You will explore and integrate creative, physical and vocal skills and techniques, working collaboratively to create a performance in response to a given stimulus. In this unit, you will learn how to respond to a given stimulus as a part of a group, using research, discussion and practical exploration to develop performance material and later present an informal presentation of the work to an invited audience. You will continuously reflect on the development process, considering the success and potential of the work for further development, as well as evaluating

your own contribution to the process and product. QESudio Subject Details: Arts – Performing Arts - Drama (Level 3) Last Updated: November 2017

### **Unit 4 – Acting styles**

You will develop acting methods by exploring different acting styles. You will then apply techniques to the development, rehearsal and performance of practical work. This unit will introduce you to the basic differences of a range of styles of theatre and the approaches of theatre practitioners work. This will enable you to create character, interpret lines and develop vocal and physical skills across different styles. You will take part in a number of workshops and sessions to explore these styles.

## **Methods of assessment**

Assessments and projects are chosen to help you progress to the next stage. This means that some are set by the teacher and meet internal needs, whereas others are set by external examiners and assess core skills and understanding. You will be assessed through a combination of practical and written assignments and tasks. This style of assessment is designed to help you analyse and improve skills through the course, build strong study skills, showcase achievements and feel confident about applying knowledge in practical work.

## **What are lessons like?**

Lessons will be a mixture of theoretical lessons and workshop sessions allowing you to fully explore the area you are studying. The lessons will be essentially practical, spending time researching, developing and exploring creative ideas. Having more dedicated time on the timetable to work within the specialism will allow you to delve deeper into your area of expertise and fully challenge your artistic vision. You will spend time coordinating rehearsals, writing scripts, devising new and exciting work alongside learning about the Theatre industry and its various components. An example project would be: spending time researching and practically exploring a specific practitioner in depth, creating a new piece of work relating to a stimulus, performing to an invited target audience, then working alongside your teacher to evaluate the success. You may find you are responsible for creating the lighting and overall design of the piece and coordinating with external members of the school about performance spaces and other features.

## **How will we work with employers and the community?**

We will arrange for various professionals within the theatre industry to run workshops and offer hand on experience to the learners. These will provide a more in depth understanding of their subject area and allow pupils to put theory into practice when creating new work.

QESudio Subject Details: Arts – Performing Arts - Drama (Level 3) Last Updated: November 2017 There will be opportunities to invite various groups of the community in to be part of

target audiences and possibilities to link with feeder primary schools to help create future audiences.

## **Where can this pathway lead?**

The BTEC Level 3 is designed to be taken as part of a programme of study that included other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels. This course can enable you to move into Higher Education or into employment opportunities within the performing arts sector. BTEC National 3 will help learners build the employability skills and confidence they will need to thrive in their chosen career path.

## **Want to know more?**

To find out more about the course and discuss your suitability please contact [J.Marriott@qes.org.uk](mailto:J.Marriott@qes.org.uk)