

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Name of Subject - Dance

Which Examination Specification is Studied for this Course? BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts (Dance pathway)

Why should I study this course? This course is perfect for a creative individual who has a passion for dance and is willing to take risks and be innovative when approaching practical work. Suitable students show enthusiasm and are prepared to dedicate time to developing their craft. Students are expected to be committed and spend time independently outside of lesson hours developing, refining, and choreographing work.

Who is suitable to study this course? Students who are interested in pursuing Performing Arts beyond Post-16 would have the opportunity to study both A Level Drama and Theatre Studies and the BTEC Performing Arts Dance pathway, as these subjects will be allocated to different option blocks. This is an exciting new offer for students, building on the success and growing interest in Performing Arts at KS4 and providing a clear pathway for students to continue developing their skills and passion beyond GCSE.

This course will also provide an excellent foundation for students wishing to progress to university-level study, including degrees in Drama, Theatre, Dance or Performing Arts, as well as applications to specialist performing arts institutions and conservatoires. It will enable students to further develop their practical skills, creative understanding, confidence and independence, while preparing them for the demands of further study and potential careers within the performing arts industry.

What are the Qualification Requirements for this Course?

5 passes where a pass is defined as:

- GCSE grades 9–4
- Pass or better at Level 2 BTEC Performing Arts (Dance Pathway)
- Regular attendance at a dance school, preferably completing grades set by dance exam boards such as ISTD, RAD, IDTA, or NATD

How is the Course Delivered? The BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts, specialising in dance, enables students to develop deep practical and theoretical knowledge within the subject. This course is designed for students who have a passion for dance and wish to pursue a career within the arts. It provides an ideal opportunity for students to advance in this subject.

There will be plenty of opportunities to watch both live and digital dance, which will support ideas for practical work. This will also enable students to analyse professional work and understand a company's approach to choreographing and performing. The course allows students to explore a range of dance practitioners and styles.

Students will develop their technique and focus on core dance skills to perform with outstanding execution. The structure of the course enables students to choreograph within the style in which they are most skilled. Students will learn professional repertoire and understand the intent behind such work. They will be expected to perform in front of a live audience and be prepared to work both as a soloist and as part of a company.

This course is an excellent choice for progressing into higher education in dance.

How is the Course Assessed? There are 4 units in total, which include: *Investigating Practitioners' Work*, *Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance*, and *Group Performance Workshop*. In addition to these, there is an optional unit chosen based on the capabilities and knowledge of the group to ensure the most suitable style of dance is selected.