

BTEC (First Performing Arts)

Year 10 & 11

Course content and overview

The Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts has been designed to provide an engaging and stimulating introduction to the world of Performing Arts. The qualification builds on learning from Key Stage 3 and is a good introduction to performing arts for learners in post-16 education, ensuring that every learner taking the qualification completes it with a level of understanding and skill on which to build at a later date. The qualification provides opportunities for learners to focus on the development of personal, learning and thinking skills, in a Performing Arts context. The qualification also provides opportunities for learners to develop their communication skills as they progress through the course. This can be achieved through presentations and in discussions where they have the opportunity to express their opinions. The course explores Musical Theatre through a range of units with focus on ensemble pieces, individual assessments and creating your own musical. The course develops learning singing, acting, dancing, script writing and directing skills.

Assessment Details

Exam Board: BTEC PEARSONS

Assessment: 3

Year 10 (April)

Unit 1: Individual Performance (25%)

How can you make sure that you present yourself in the best light to potential employers when employment or training opportunities arise? Securing work and training opportunities in the performing arts will require you to be able to promote yourself effectively in a range of situations. First impressions matter, so it is crucial that you are able to recognise and promote your skills with confidence and clarity. This unit covers what to include in a letter of application and how to prepare audition pieces or presentations that demonstrate your relevant skills and knowledge. The presentation aspect of the unit will give you knowledge and experience of the audition/presentation process.

In this unit you will:

A - understand the skills required for the selected progression opportunity

B - present a self-promotional response to the selected progression opportunity

Year 10 (January)

Unit 2: Preparation, Performance and Production (25%)

Have you ever thought about all of the things that need to happen before a performance is seen by an audience? In this unit you will learn how to develop a performance piece as a member of a fictional performance company. You will take on a specific performing role and will prepare for, and produce, a performance by carrying out tasks that are appropriate to your role. No matter what role you undertake, you will also need to explore the performance piece you are working on. The performers will explore, develop and shape ideas for the performance. You will need to take part in preparations for the performance that are appropriate to your role to ensure everything is ready for the opening night. This might include attending rehearsals, production meetings, writing scripts or choreographing a dance routine. All of your hard work will come to fruition when you present your performance.

In this unit you will:

A - take part in the preparations for a live performance

B - demonstrate performance or production skills and techniques in a performance.

Year 11 (April)

Unit 5: Musical Theatre Skills (50%)

Musical theatre is a tough performance genre to master as it requires acting, singing and dancing skills. This highly practical unit will give you a taste of the world of the musical. You will take part in activities designed to improve your technical and interpretive skills in each discipline. You will then bring these skills together to work on an extract from a musical that you will rehearse and perform in a workshop situation. This unit may help you to appreciate and develop skills in a performance style that is different from your main discipline and is, therefore, useful in expanding your repertoire of skills. You will need to demonstrate your technical ability in each discipline and will have opportunities to perform each skill equally. In order to improve your musical theatre skills it is important to regularly review your progress. You will therefore be encouraged to understand your own strengths, identify areas for your development and as a result set targets for your improvements.

In this unit you will:

A - explore and develop your musical theatre skills and review your own practice

B - rehearse and perform musical theatre work combining singing, acting and dancing skills.

Useful Revision Guides, resources and websites

The Specification

https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Firsts/Performing-Arts/2012/Specification-and-sample-assessments/9781446936344_BTECFIRST_L12_AWD_PA_Iss3.pdf

Supporting Home Learning

- Watching Theatre live or streaming.
- Rehearsing performance pieces.
- Learning lines.
- Unit 1 - Preparation and rehearsal of individual researched presentations and performance pieces will be vital to ensure a confident delivery during assessments.

Progression Routes & Careers

This course develops confidence, communication skills, collaboration skills, self-discipline and a range of Performing Arts skills. Although many of the skills are transferable, this course can be instrumental to pupils accessing further studies in Performing Arts.

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