

Expectations Evening

**BTEC Performing Arts -**  
**Extended Certificate & National Diploma**

# Overview - Extended Certificate

Equivalent in size to one A Level. 4 units, of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (58%)

Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners' Work

Unit 2: Developing Skills & Techniques for Live Performance

Unit 3: Group Performance Workshop

Unit ? : *To be chosen by staff in year 13.*

**Unit 1 & 2 –  
Completed in Year 12**

The Extended Certificate is for learners 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, not necessarily in performing arts. It is designed to be taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels.

# Overview - National Diploma

Equivalent in size to two A Levels. 8 units, of which 6 are mandatory and 3 are external. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (46%)

Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners' Work	Year 12
Unit 2: Developing Skills & Techniques for Live Performance	Year 12
Unit 3: Group Performance Workshop	Year 13
Unit 4: Performing Arts In The Community	Year 13
Unit 5: Individual Performance Commission	Year 12
Unit 6: Final Live Performance to an Audience	Year 13
Unit 14: Choreography for Live Performance	Year 12
Unit ?: <i>To be chosen by staff in year 13.</i>	Year 13

The National Diploma is designed to be the substantive part of a 16–19 study programme for learners who want a strong core of sector study. This programme may include other BTEC Nationals or A Levels to support progression to higher education courses in performing arts areas before entering employment. The additional qualification(s) studied allow learners either to give breadth to their study programme by choosing a contrasting subject, or to give it more focus by choosing a complementary subject.

# Unit 2: Developing Skills & Techniques for Live Performance

*This component will be completed in Term 1 & 2 of Year 12.*

## **Overview**

Learners explore technical performance skills with a focus on developing skills and techniques in at least two performance styles. The Unit is broken down into four Learning Aims, which are assessed throughout the course:

A: Understand the role and skills of a performer

B: Develop performance skills and techniques for live performance

C: Apply performance skills and techniques in selected styles

D: Review and reflect on development of skills and techniques for live performance

# How is it assessed?

This component is internally assessed and externally moderated by the exam board.  
There are **four parts to the assessment**:

- a presentation on the role and skill of a performer
- workshop based classes developing skills & techniques
- a final performance demonstrating skills developed
- log books detailing progression & a final evaluation of personal development

# Expectations

- **Students are on time** – the door closes 1 minute after the bell. If students are late without an appropriate reason, they will not be allowed in. The reason for this is that often very focused work has begun, or sessions are being filmed and can't be interrupted.
- **100% attendance is needed for success** – This is vital to passing this course.
- **Homework** – 0 tolerance for late homework. Homework will often be used to inform the next practical lesson therefore....no homework = no practical lesson. Failure to complete work on time often impacts the learning of others, as assessment is around group work.
- **Full equipment needed for every session** - Including, folders, notebook, scripts, writing equipment.
- **Uniform** – Practical wear (QuniqueE Uniform), hair tied back and no jewellery. Students should not be wearing short skirts, jeans/ crop-tops etc. for these sessions.

# Key dates and opportunities

- Frantic Assembly Workshop DATE TBC – A critical day that will directly inform Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners' Work
- 2nd November - *King Lear* performance and classical theatre workshop for students
- Other external companies coming in to run workshops in Improvisation, theatre trips and performance opportunities to be announced over the coming weeks.

# Advice and guidance for student success

*This will be issued before Autumn Half Term*

- **Use the support materials that will be supplied by staff:**
  - example material of coursework and examination papers
  - detailed information on the practitioners studied and their methodologies
  - performance and coursework criteria

# Advice and guidance for parents/carers

- **Monitor student illness** – please encourage students to attend if a little under the weather. We would rather a student sit, observe and take notes quietly rather than miss the lesson.
- A large amount of classes are filmed – if students are absent we are unable to provide evidence of their development & achievement of the criteria.
- Please contact Mrs Dewsnap should you have any concerns around student progress or pending deadlines [kdewsnap@queenelizabeths.com](mailto:kdewsnap@queenelizabeths.com)

# Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners' Work

## Overview

Learners investigate the work of performing arts practitioners and develop critical analysis skills and contextual understanding of how practitioners communicate themes in their work.

Assessment outcomes:

**AO1** Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of contextual factors that influence work of performing arts practitioners

**AO2** Apply knowledge and understanding of how contextual factors influence the creative intentions and themes of performing arts practitioners

**AO3** Apply critical analysis skills to develop and demonstrate understanding of performance, production and repertoire

**AO4** Be able to apply an effective investigation process to inform the understanding of the work of performing arts practitioners, communicating independent judgements

# How is it assessed?

**The Examination Question. Meaning we have four weeks to prepare research & practice answering!**

This unit will be assessed through a task and completed under supervised conditions.

The task is formed of two parts, Part A and Part B.

Part A will be issued to learners four weeks before the timetabled session for Part B. Part B is taken under supervised conditions in a single session of 3 hours timetabled by Pearson.

The number of marks for the task is 60.

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- **Feedback** – to ensure progress is made, students are given feedback on their work. It is vital that students respond to the feedback and meet all deadlines set

# Advice and guidance for student success

*This will be issued before Autumn Half Term*

- **Use the support materials that will be supplied by staff:**
  - example material of coursework and examination papers
  - detailed information on the practitioners studied and their methodologies
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  - **research will need to be thorough, simply using google/Wikipedia is not enough....actual books may need to be read!**

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- **Monitor submission deadlines** – please encourage students to meet all deadlines set by staff – this ensures students have enough time to respond to feedback and make any necessary changes to improve their work.
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# Year 13

- Unit 3: Group Performance Workshop
- Unit ? : Selected by staff, considering the strengths and abilities of the students.

# National Diploma Further Information

The next slides are surrounding units taken by students on the National Diploma Course.

# Unit 5: Individual Performance Commission

## Overview

Learners understand the nature and purpose of commission work, responding individually to a specific commission brief by applying their performance skills.

### **Assessment outcomes:**

**AO1** Formulate ideas that demonstrate understanding of a commission brief

**AO2** Apply an understanding of developing performance content in response to a commission brief

**AO3** Apply performance skills to communicate creative intentions in relation to a commission brief

**AO4** Evaluate the effectiveness of own performance

# How is it assessed? - **May/June 2023**

A task worth 60 marks, completed under supervised conditions.

The supervised assessment period is a maximum of **two hours** and should be arranged by the centre in the week timetabled by Pearson.

Before the supervised assessment period, learners will have a **five-week period** in order to carry out research, planning, development and rehearsal for submission. For assessment, learners will be provided with a commission brief. Learners will respond to the commission and stimulus, developing an individual performance for an invited audience.

Learners will submit a proposal explaining the performance piece(s) chosen and how it relates to the brief, a video recording of their individual performance and an evaluation relating to the commission and the performance work completed.

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# Unit 14: Choreography for Live Performance

## Overview

Learners develop their knowledge, skills and techniques in choreography through practical exploration, workshops and performance.

The Unit is broken down into four Learning Aims, which are assessed throughout the course:

- A** Understand choreographic structures and devices
- B** Develop choreography techniques for performance
- C** Apply choreography techniques to a performance
- D** Review own development and final performance.

# How is it assessed? -

This component is internally assessed and externally moderated by the exam board.

There are **four parts to the assessment**:

- a presentation on understanding choreographic structures and devices
- workshop based classes developing choreography techniques
- a final performance demonstrating skills developed
- log books detailing progression & a final evaluation of personal development

# Final Note Regarding Internal Assessment

For internal assessments:

Example:

## **Unit 2**

Learning Aim A - P

Learning Aim B - D

Learning Aim C - D

Learning Aim D - D

Overall for this Unit you would only receive a PASS. The result is determined by your lowest grade.

