

# DANCE & DRAMA DEPARTMENT PROUDLY PRESENTS



# BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN PERFORMING ARTS

# STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

- Year 12

Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners Practice (external assessment, mandatory)

Unit 2: Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance (internal assessment, mandatory)

- Year 13

Unit 3: Group Performance (external assessment, mandatory)

Your final unit will be from a optional list in your preferred art form and will be internally assessed

All units combine practical and theoretical understanding and require a range of coursework evidence

# SO WHAT IS INVOLVED?

## YEAR 12

### Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners Work

You will study and explore different practitioners focusing on their styles and techniques and how they have created their work. Exploring themes and how they have been represented in examples of their work and identifying influences from other practitioners to develop their own unique style. This will be assessed through a written essay in controlled conditions in May/June. You will be given opportunities throughout the year to build upon essay writing skills and be given a mock in January.

## EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT

### Unit 2: Developing Styles and Techniques for Live Performance

You will explore two different styles in dance OR drama dependent on your chosen art form. You will participate in workshops to develop your skills and techniques in these styles as evidence towards ongoing practical assessment. Throughout these workshops you will assess and evaluate your own skills to document how you develop and improve. You will perform in both styles to demonstrate application and development of your own skills and techniques. This will be supported by a journal that documents your development and a presentation on your chosen art form. This will be followed up by an evaluation of the overall process.

## INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

## YEAR 13

### Unit 3: Group Performance

This unit is about you working as group to create/devise your own performance in response to a stimulus provided by the exam board. In preparation for this you will participate in a range of workshops to explore the creative process and evaluate the stimulus to structure your final piece. You will complete written controlled assessments to support the creative process to explain and analyse how you created your work and developed it. You will combine the different art forms to amalgamate your ideas to create one final piece together.

**EXTERNALLY ASSESSED**

### Option

You will be provided with a range of units you can specialise in to select as a group or in each art form. You will be provided with a list at the end of year 12 to see which one you would like to do.

**INTERNAL ASSESSMENT**

# TRANSITION WORK: UNIT 1

In preparation for September it will be vital for you to come prepared with some research on the following practitioners. This research will need to be fully referenced as to the website where you found the information and kept safe to aid your investigation towards unit 1. We will be looking at the following practitioners:

- ❑ Frantic Assembly
- ❑ Splendid Productions
- ❑ Gecko Theatre company
- ❑ Bertolt Brecht

To combine the two art forms you will be looking at Physical Theatre in unit 1 as it is storytelling through movement.

What you need to look for is:

- ❑ Background
- ❑ Training
- ❑ Practitioners they have worked with/for (key influences on their work)
- ❑ Personal backstory – Brecht's is rather interesting and had a massive impact on the development of his style and works
- ❑ Works they have created – particular style or development they have created

The key focus is PHYSICAL THEATRE research the background and development of this style to aid your understanding of these practitioners

# TRANSITION WORK: UNIT 2 - ACTORS

In preparation for this unit I want you to research different drama exercises and use them at least once a week to keep your skills up. Look at exercises that can continue to work on your

## ❖ **vocal**

## ❖ **physical skills**

Find 4 exercises for each and log them in a journal that we can use in September. There will be opportunities for you to share them in our workshops.

The two styles we will focus on will be naturalism (Stanislawski) and epic theatre (Brecht). Additional research on these techniques and practitioners will support your acting skills and unit 1 research.

In addition, I would like you to evaluate your skills as an actor. Analyse your own skills identifying your strengths and areas for further improvement that you want to work on through sixth form. Also tell me about your ambitions and career path if you have one.



# TRANSITION WORK: UNIT 2 - DANCERS

In preparation for this unit I want you to research different dance exercises and use them at least twice a week to keep your technique up. Look at exercises that can continue to work on your

❖ **flexibility**

❖ **strength**

❖ **agility**

Find 3 exercises for each and log them in a journal that we can use in September. There will be opportunities for you to share them in our workshops.

The two styles we will focus on will be contemporary dance: Limon Release-based and Cunningham. Additional research on these techniques and practitioners will support your acting skills and unit 1 research.

In addition, I would like you to evaluate your skills as a dancer. Analyse your own skills identifying your strengths and areas for further improvement that you want to work on through sixth form. Also tell me about your ambitions and career path if you have one.



# FURTHER INFORMATION

Please email the team if you have any issues with the transition work. We are very much looking forward to the new course and seeing you all!

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You will need to make sure you have a lever arch folder and A4 pad of paper ready for September.

Stay safe and take care

Mrs S Corboz

Curriculum Leader for Dance & Drama