



PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY MUSICAL THEATRE

BTEC level 3 Extended Diploma

WHY BTEC MUSICAL THEATRE?

The opportunities for students of Musical Theatre have continued to develop over the last decade, perhaps nowhere more so than in the Midlands. As Birmingham continues to be promoted as the nation's "Second City" and attracts major Arts organisations to the area, so too the West Midlands is becoming recognised as a centre for Culture and the Arts. The job opportunities for students leaving full time education will continue to grow over the coming decade.

The Musical Theatre course offered at Thomas Telford School provides a wide range of vocational experiences. It prepares students for their chosen career paths, in both the world of work and Higher Education.

Thomas Telford School has an established 20 year reputation for excellence in Musical Theatre. Many students have acquired prestigious places at Higher Education establishments and Stage Schools and several of our past students are now working professionally.

SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 4 GCSEs (Grades A* - C) Preferably in English, one in Mathematics or Science and one in Performing Arts or a Performing Arts discipline
- Experience in performance work in at least one area either at GCSE level, or through outside agencies, such as dancing schools or amateur theatre is desirable.

The emphasis of this course is to develop skills in all areas of musical theatre and to develop students as all round performers.



COURSE DETAILS

Edexcel Syllabus: Level 3 1.4

Triple Award You will study 18 Units as follows:

Core Units

Unit 1 Performance Workshop (*Internally assessed*)

This module is your starting point for assessing your practical skills and building on these in future work. The emphasis is on performance and making material to perform. You will develop team skills and perform existing repertoire as well as devising your own material. Emphasis is on combining dance, drama and music skills.

Unit 3 Performing Arts Business (*Internally assessed*)

In this unit you will find out about the Performing Arts industry and the employment opportunities available to you. You will look at what skills are needed to plan and finance a show and the legal aspect of putting on a performance. You will relate your business understanding to practical projects you will do over the two years.

Unit 4 The Historical Context in Performance (*Internally assessed*)

This unit is all about finding out about the development of theatre and looking at the history and culture.

Unit 5 Rehearsing for Performance (*Internally assessed*)

This module is linked to the major project and you will complete this at the end of the course and demonstrate all you have learnt about the rehearsal process.

Unit 7 Performing to an Audience (*Internally assessed*)

This will be your last piece of work and you will build to working on a small musical taking responsibility for its development from the start to the finish of the project. You will have both a performing and business role. Recent projects have been "Slice of Saturday Night" and "Little Shop of Horrors" and "Cabaret evening at Perton Community centre.

Unit 14 Musical Theatre Performance (*Internally assessed*)

This is the foundation module to the whole course and where you will gain your practical skills in singing and have chance to develop your acting, directing and choreographic skills that you are acquiring in other modules. You will showcase a lot of the work in this module in "Arts Night" performances.



Specialist Units

Unit 9 Devising Plays (*Internally assessed*)

Within this module students will learn how to devise drama from a given starting point. They will explore the potential of a particular stimulus, techniques and dramatic devices and create a piece for final performance.

Unit 13 Contemporary Theatre Performance (*Internally assessed*)

Students will explore and study two contrasting play texts post 1914. They will look at the acting skills necessary in realising the text and conveying the intentions of the playwright. They will participate in two complete final performance pieces.

Unit 20 Applying Acting Styles (*Internally assessed*)

Students will look at a range of acting styles and techniques including naturalism/realism, epic theatre, Shakespearean/Elizabethan, Greek, melodrama and physical theatre.

Unit 25 The Practice of Directing Theatre (*Internally assessed*)

This module will allow students to experiment with setting work either pre existing or work that they have written during the script writing module. Emphasis is on development of organisation and leadership skills as acting styles.

Unit 27 Script Writing (*Internally assessed*)

Students will explore the role of the scriptwriter and will contribute to a range of scripted performances. They will also learn how to write scripts and screenplays to be performed.

Unit 30 Singing for Actors and Dancers (*Internally assessed*)

This module will introduce you to singing skills you will develop in other modules on this course. It is about improving confidence, acquiring new skills for beginners and developing the more experienced singer.

Unit 38 Dance Performance (*Internally assessed*)

This module is all about improving skills as a performer of dance. A variety of dance pieces in different genres will be explored.

Unit 39 Choreographic Principles (*Internally assessed*)

In this module students will learn how to make interesting dance pieces in a variety of different group sizes. This will culminate in a final presentation of their work in "Arts Night" dance production.

Unit 45 Developing Contemporary Dance (*Internally assessed*)

Students will develop technical skills in this technique, building from sample exercises to more complex phrases and set studies. Emphasis will be on the development of practical skills.



Unit 50 Movement in Performance (*Internally assessed*)

This is a foundation module and combines the skills needed to be a good performer. It will be delivered in small tasks and through work in the rehearsing and performing of the annual School production.

Unit 54 Dance Appreciation (*Internally assessed*)

This module looks at how professional choreographers work and the pieces they produce. There will be an opportunity to study professional work in both practical and other forms.

Unit 13 Contemporary Theatre Performance (*Internally assessed*)

Students will explore a range of contemporary theatre practitioners and at least two contemporary plays. They will perform each play and compare the differing approaches to each text and the style of writing.