

# **Madeley Academy**

## **BTEC level 3 Extended Diploma**

### **Performing Arts (Performance)**

#### **WHY BTEC PERFORMANCE?**

The opportunities for students of Performing Arts have continued to develop over the last decade, perhaps nowhere more so than in the Midlands.

The job opportunities for students leaving full time education have expanded greatly, and will continue to grow over the coming decade. Performance skills will benefit a wide range of careers as students will not only build upon their specific talents but they will also build confidence and learn how to work independently, work as a team and even how to manage a team.

The Performing Arts course offered at Madeley Academy provides a wide range of vocational experiences. It prepares students for their chosen career paths, in both the world of work and Higher Education. Students will have opportunity to progress in many ways including via entry to University to study a performing arts related degree, entry to vocational stage school to study a professional diploma or degree programme or by direct entry into performance/entertainment related work/employment.

#### **SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

4 GCSEs (Grades A\* - C) Preferably including English, Mathematics or Science and a qualification in any of the Performing Arts disciplines (Music, Dance, Drama or Performing Arts)

Experience in performance work in at least one area either within the Academy, or through outside agencies, such as dancing schools or musical theatre is desirable. The emphasis of this course is to develop skills in all areas of performing arts and to develop students as all round performers.

BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma (60 credit, broadly equivalent to one A level), Diploma (120 credit, two A levels), Extended Diploma (180 credit, three A levels)

#### **COURSE DETAILS**

Edexcel Specification: Level 3 - All units are **internally assessed** and externally verified.

**Subsidiary Diploma** You will study 6 units (combined total of 60 credits), including one core unit as follows:

##### **Core Unit:**

**Unit 7 Performing to an Audience (10 credits)**

This will be your last piece of work and you will build your performance skills to working on a public performance taking responsibility for its development from the start to the finish of the project. You will have both a performing and business role.

**Diploma** You will study 12 units (combined total of 120 credits), including three core units as follows:

**Core Units:**

**Unit 7 Performing to an Audience (10 credits) as above.**

**Unit 1 Performance Workshop (10 credits)**

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 (10 credits)**

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.

**Extended Diploma** You will study 17 units (combined total of 180 credits) including five core units as follows:

**Core Units:**

**Unit 7 Performing to an Audience (10 credits) as above.**

**Unit 1 Performance Workshop (10 credits) as above**

**Unit 3 Performing Arts Business (10 credits) as above**

**Unit 4 The Historical Context of Performance (10 credits)** This unit is all about finding out about the development of theatre and looking at the history and culture.

**Unit 5 Rehearsing for Performance (20 credits)**

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.

**List of Optional Units (all 10 credits)**

**Unit 9 Devising Plays**

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 10 Theatre in Education**

Students will research, develop and realise (participate in) an educational performance project.

## **Unit 11 Theatre for Children**

Within this module students will liaise with a local primary school to develop a piece of theatre that enriches the curriculum the primary school students are being taught. They will have to write, develop, direct and perform the piece themselves and will run a short workshop for the children after the performance.

## **Unit 12 Classical Theatre Performance**

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

## **Unit 13 Contemporary Theatre Performance**

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.

## **Unit 14 Musical Theatre Performance**

This is where you will gain your practical skills in singing, acting and dancing 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 Academy Productions.

## **Unit 15 Variety Performance**

This unit enables learners to create, devise and then put on a performance that includes a wide variety of art forms.

## **Unit 16 Performing with Masks**

Students will have the opportunity to understand the effectiveness of mask performance.

## **Unit 17 Developing Voice for the Actor**

This unit introduces learners to the physiological principles of voice production. Knowledge of the physical limitations of the voice is essential so that actors can use their voices without damaging them and development can occur safely. The voice must be developed so that the lines of a play can be projected to an audience in a way that is free and personal

## **Unit 18 Auditions for Actors**

Students will prepare audition pieces and learn how to combat nerves and conquer physical and vocal techniques whilst under pressure in an audition scenario.

## **Unit 19 Principles of Acting**

Students will undertake a range of acting workshops looking at the key skills employed by professional actors. Students will specifically explore the techniques and approaches of the two key practitioners of Constantine Stanislavski and Bertolt Brecht.

## **Unit 20 Applying Acting Styles**

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

## **Unit 21 Drama Improvisation**

This unit will allow learners to fully explore how improvisation can work for an actor, what the techniques are, how to develop from a starting point and not come to a grinding halt through lack of ideas.

## **Unit 22 Audio Performance Acting**

Students will understand and use vocal techniques and skills used in radio drama and other audio formats.

## **Unit 23 Film and TV Acting**

Students will be given the opportunity to develop acting techniques for the camera

## **Unit 24 The Performance of Mime**

Students will study and understand the history of mime and key practitioners, then develop, create, rehearse and perform mime acts.

## **Unit 25 The Practice of Directing Theatre**

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 26 Approaches to Directing Theatre**

Students will study and understand the role of a theatre director.

## **Unit 27 Script Writing**

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 28 Storytelling as Performance**

This module gives students the opportunity to research source materials and then develop their own stories for performance.

## **Unit 29 Stand-up Comic Technique**

Students will select, develop and refine comedy material suitable for performance.

## **Unit 30 Singing skills for Actors and Dancers**

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**

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**

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 a dance performance

## **Unit 40 Choreographing Dance**

Students can specialise in choreography and refine their skills in multiple performances.

## **Unit 41 Dance Improvisation**

This unit gives students the chance to understand the effectiveness of improvisation in dance, and use these skills in performance.

## **Unit 42 The Healthy Performer**

Students will learn the structure and function of the human body, and be able to demonstrate principles of fitness training and safe practice.

## **Unit 43 Developing Classical Ballet Technique**

Students will learn physical skills specific to ballet, and learn and perform sequences.

## **Unit 44 Applying Classical Ballet Techniques**

Students can extend their Ballet skills in this unit, showing improvement in classical ballet technique.

## **Unit 45 Developing Contemporary Dance Technique**

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 46 Applying Contemporary Dance Technique**

Students will demonstrate and apply stylistic features of contemporary dance in complex sequences.

## **Unit 47 Jazz Dance**

In this unit students should be able to demonstrate the relationship between Jazz dance and music and perform key features of Jazz dance.

## **Unit 48 Tap Dance**

Students will learn basic skills and key features of tap dancing, and demonstrate the relationship between tap dance, accompaniment and music.

## **Unit 49 Developing Movement Skills**

Students will apply key skills of dance in their work, featuring spatial awareness, relationships and dynamic principles.

## **Unit 50 Movement in Performance**

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 production and other performance opportunities.

## **Unit 51 International Dance**

Students will learn the history and context of a variety of international dance styles, learning how to reproduce them in their own performances.

## **Unit 52 Urban Dance**

In this unit students should be able to demonstrate the relationship between urban dance and music and perform key features of urban dance.

## **Unit 53 Exploring Contact Improvisation.**

Students will learn the main principles of contact within dance, exploring with stimuli and other dancers.

## **Unit 54 Dance Appreciation**

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 55 Arts in the Community**

Students will explore and contribute to arts in their local community.

## **Unit 74 Working Freelance in the Performing and Production Arts**

This unit prepares students for the world of work, looking at the practical and logistical elements of working in the performing arts business.

## **Unit 75 Legal Aspects for Performers**

A professional unit preparing students for real-life legal aspects they will have to deal with every day in the performing arts business such as contracts.

## **Unit 101 Singing Techniques and Performance**

This module is all about improving skills as a singer. A variety of techniques and songs in different genres will be explored.

## **Unit 102 Site-Specific Performance**

Students will prepare performances in different venues, looking at the specific needs of each venue.

## **Unit 103 Voice and the Actor**

Students will demonstrate using their voices in a professional way, using vocal techniques to help with skills such as vocal projection and keeping the voice healthy.

## **Unit 104 Special Subject Investigation**

In this unit, students can choose a subject they are particularly interested in researching on a professional level in order to help prepare them for a future career within performing and production arts.