GCE PERFORMING ARTS



Examination Board: CCEA

Overview

Performing arts is a growth industry in Northern Ireland. This AS/A2 level gives students opportunities to research and gain insights into the industry, engage with effective practice and prepare for employment, further training and/or study.

The specification offers a wide range of skills in both performance and production. The teacher acts as facilitator in helping students to develop their chosen skills and may act as a director for group performances in the absence of a group director.

AS/A2 Performing Arts is an applied qualification in which students develop knowledge, understanding and skills through practical demonstration and/or in a context related to employability.

AS LEVEL			
Unit	Content	Assessment	
Developing Skills & Repertoire	This unit gives students the opportunity to develop one discipline within performing arts (from either Performance or Production) and then apply this discipline in a performance context. To develop the discipline, students work individually and in groups of between two and nine. They explore two contrasting extracts of repertoire from a range of existing material including musical scores, set works and published extracts. A portfolio, including a summary of research, skills audit, record of work, risk assessment, either live performance or production and presentation, and evaluation. Students can focus on Dance, Drama, Music, Choreography, Design (set or costume), Direction, Stage Management, Sound or Lighting.	60% of AS 24% of A Level Internally Assessed Externally Moderated	
Planning & Realising a Performing Arts Event	This unit involves responding to pre-release stimulus material. This will be concept, theme or issue based. Students interpret this stimulus to create a performing arts event that will draw on existing material. Students present their performing arts event to an audience and the external examiner in groups. Each group should consist of between two and nine students. Although each group prepares and presents the work, the external examiner assesses each student as an individual. Performances should last between 10 and 40 minutes, depending on the size of the group.	16% of A Level Externally	

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A LEVEL			
Unit	Content	Assessment	
Planning For Employment	This unit gives students the opportunity to develop their understanding of how to find work in their chosen discipline. Students work individually to explore the range and scope of employment opportunities in the performing arts industry. They develop materials that will assist them in gaining employment in their chosen discipline. Students will acquire knowledge and understanding of how to gain work in the performing arts industry by investigating the training required, the jobs available and the role of unions, agents and recruitment agencies in securing work locally and nationally. Students should compile their research in a written report. Students create an employment plan that reflects the knowledge gained through their research.	60% of A2 36% of A Level Internally Assessed Externally Moderated	
Performing to a Commission Brief	This unit gives students the opportunity to form a production company to realise a performing arts event based on a set stimulus. Students research, promote, plan and perform the event. Students demonstrate their skills in their chosen discipline by realising the stimulus practically for an audience and the external examiner. Students focus on performing or producing original material They work to an agreed production schedule to meet deadlines. Students decide on a suitable venue for the performance and take account of production, budgetary constraints and target audience.	40% of A2 24% of A Level Externally Assessed	

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