

OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (601/0248/2)

About this qualification

This is an Applied General qualification that is designed for learners aged 16-19 who want to study the performing arts where they can learn and be assessed in ways that are practical and relevant to the performing arts sector. It is designed to give learners the transferable knowledge and skills to progress to higher education, especially to a Foundation Degree programme, or to further study or work in performing arts.

What skills and knowledge will be covered?

Learners will take between 17 and 18 units, made up of core and optional units. The 3 core units will give learners a firm foundation from which to go on to develop their practice. These units broadly cover the main skills and knowledge required by the industry in two main areas, performance and production: skills development, an understanding of how to sustain a freelance career in a highly competitive environment and having a practical involvement in a performance project. Learners then select 14 or 15 more units and have two options when it comes to their choice of optional units – either to continue to develop a broader overview or they can focus their skills and techniques in a pathway of drama, dance, music or production. (Pathways allow the learner to develop the skills and knowledge for a specific area of study which can then support their progress to higher-level studies.) Learners will work to develop their practice and refine their skills from a range of art forms or technical areas, working towards industry standards.

The qualification will also enable learners to develop other desirable skills such as research, project management, co-operative group work and independent learning.

Where could this qualification lead to?

1. A higher education course. This qualification has a UCAS tariff of between 120 and 420 UCAS points, depending on the grade awarded. This can provide entry to a Foundation Degree or degree programme.
2. Employment opportunities such as arts administration, event management, community projects.