



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

## **OCR Level 2 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Performing Arts (601/0575/6)**

### **Overview**

This qualification is designed for students aged 16-19 years old wanting to specialise in the Performing Arts industry.

This qualification provides an understanding of Performing Arts through engagement with techniques, the work of practitioners, industry conventions and community projects. Students have the opportunity to take units that are relevant to specific areas within the Performing Arts industry such as performance, production and administration. This leads to the application of practical and creative skills that transfer easily into the workplace and demonstrate industry standards for would be performers and students looking for careers in performing arts event management, concert production or in entertainment venues.

This qualification gives students solid foundation skills as well as an awareness and understanding of the specialist skills required for the roles allowing them to progress easily to higher level qualifications and potential specialisms.

This qualification has been designed so that it can be delivered in one year.

In order to take this qualification students do not need any specific knowledge or skills related to the qualification and/or occupation. However, they should be aged 16 years or over.

### **What does this qualification cover?**

Students will need to achieve the following mandatory units: The Performing Arts Industry and Performance project. These units will introduce students to the organisations and roles in this rich and very diverse industry and enable them to take part in the developmental process of a Performing Arts production.

Alongside these units students will also take a skills development unit to develop core skills in dance, drama, music or production and a further optional unit to specialise further in one of these areas. This qualification can develop students' skills and understanding in a wide range of areas; planning, rehearsing, performance and production, all of which enable students to aspire to meet key industry requirements.

This qualification will also enable students to develop other desirable skills. Depending on their choice of optional units this could include critical thinking, communication, leadership, and motivating others.

This qualification was developed in close collaboration with industry and employer-led organisations representing the sector including the sector skills council.

We've designed this qualification so that schools and Colleges can work with employers to create assignments for students to demonstrate they can put their skills and knowledge to use. For example, this may be to, create something, solve a problem or find ways to improve something that would be typical of what happens in jobs in the performing arts industry. Employers can also get involved in teaching, from explaining the theories behind performing arts principles and how they apply to the work they do to talking about what to think about before devising a play.

**What could this qualification lead to?**

This qualification will provide entry to employment in some Performing Arts related careers. Such students would normally enter employment through a work-related training programme such as a Technical Theatre Support apprentices in areas such as lighting, sound, stage management and front of house. Alternatively students could progress on to further technical or vocational education in specific areas of performing e.g. drama, dance and music.

This qualification is part of a larger Substantial Vocational Level 2 suite, consisting of this Extended Certificate (180 GLH) and a Diploma (360 GLH).

The Extended Certificate is a similar size to one GCSE. The qualification will provide students with an introduction to the Performing Arts industry and will usually be studied alongside other courses. It will also support students if they want to undertake additional study or professional development.

Students should take the Extended Certificate if they wish to study this qualification alongside other courses. This qualification will allow students to specialise in the Performing Arts industry, equipping them with knowledge and skills, entry into employment within the Performing Arts industry or further study in a specialist area.