

## Statement of Purpose

### 601/7683/0 RSL Level 3 Extended Diploma in Creative and Performing Arts

#### Overview

The Level 3 Extended Diploma in Creative and Performing Arts equips learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding for entry to employment in the performing arts industry. The qualification aims to offer practical structured learning with the flexibility to specialise in different disciplines directly relevant to employment within the performing arts industry.

#### **Who is this qualification for?**

This qualification is for learners aged 16+ who wish to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding for entry to employment in the performing arts industry. There are no specific requirements for entry, though learners are likely to hold related qualifications at Entry Level, Level 1 or Level 2 or have related experience in performing arts.

#### **What does the qualification cover?**

The learner can follow one of three pathways – Acting, Dance or Musical Theatre.

Those on the **Acting** pathway undertake two externally assessed core units (Performance Preparation & Final Production), which require learners to work to a brief, set with input from industry practitioners (employers) specific to the area of specialism. In addition to this they take an internally assessed core unit (Planning for a Career in the Creative and Performing Arts) together with 10 optional units that can develop their acting skills.

Those on the **Dance** pathway undertake two externally assessed core units (Performance Preparation & Final Production), which require learners to work to a brief, set with input from industry practitioners (employers) specific to the area of specialism. In addition to this they take an internally assessed core unit (Planning for a Career in the Creative and Performing Arts) together with 10 optional units that can develop their dancing skills.

Those undertaking the **Musical Theatre** pathway undertake two externally assessed core units (Performance Preparation & Final Production), which require learners to work to a brief, set with input from industry practitioners (employers) specific to the area of specialism. In addition to this they take an internally assessed core unit (Planning for a Career in the Creative and Performing Arts) together with 10 optional units selected from the three unit groupings of acting, dance and music which mirror the three skillsets required of a musical theatre performer. At least two optional units must be selected from each grouping.

Learners apply a range of skills, knowledge and understanding and work independently in preparation for employment/further study. Tutors find the mode of assessment, which best suits the learner in terms of their strengths, ensuring that evidence demonstrates achievement of the learning outcomes. Evidence may include (but is not limited to) recorded/videoed performances or compositions, assignments, reports, rehearsal logs, diagrams/graphs, illustrations/screenshots and video evidence.

The Syllabus Pack, containing Syllabus Document (with a full list of units available in each pathway in Section B.3) and detailed information about each unit, can be downloaded from the RSL website at:  
<http://www.rslawards.com/vocational/syllabus>

## What could this qualification lead to?

### Employment

Learners completing this qualification will have the skills to progress straight into the performing arts industry. It is divided into specific pathways offering the opportunity to undertake specialised learning that can be accurately matched to specific career sectors in the creative and performing arts industries.

Occupational areas this qualification can lead on to include:

- Actor
- Dancer
- Musical Theatre Performer

### Further Learning

Learners can progress to higher education courses such as degrees in Performing Arts, Music Theatre, Drama & Theatre Studies, Acting & Dance. This will enable students to develop the knowledge and skills obtained from the RSL Level 3 Extended Diploma in Creative and Performing Arts, preparing them further for work in the performing arts industry.

## **Why should a student take this qualification instead of another in the RSL suite of qualifications in creative and performing arts?**

The Level 3 Extended Diploma in Creative and Performing Arts is designed for learners wishing to take a specialist two-year qualification at Level 3 focusing on entry to employment in a specific area of the performing arts such as Acting, Dance or Musical Theatre. The Extended Diploma offers the opportunity to cover in comprehensive detail the skills and knowledge needed to enter in to these industry areas. It offers a more advanced level of study than the RSL Creative and Performing Arts Qualifications at Level 1 & 2 and a more complete breadth of skills and knowledge than the smaller certificate sized qualifications at Level 3 and the Level 3 Diploma.

It would be attractive to learners wishing to undertake a course at Level 3 for two years, offering a comprehensive breadth and depth of study in their chosen discipline covering the full range of topics included in the unit selection and allowing greater expertise in specialist disciplines relevant to the Acting, Dance or Musical Theatre worlds.

## Who supports this qualification?

### i) Industry

The following professional bodies and employers support this qualification as being fit for purpose, in that it will equip learners with the knowledge and skills relevant to various sectors of the performing arts industry:

CDET  
Chichester Festival Theatre  
The Forge  
Independance  
Andrew Welch  
The Beach Hut Theatre Company

Letters of support can be found at

<https://www.rslawards.com/vocational/letters-of-support>



### Further Information

This is intended as a **Tech Level** qualification, which is a rigorous advanced (level 3) technical qualification, on a par with A levels and recognised by employers. Tech Levels are for post-16 students wishing to specialise in a specific industry, occupation or occupational group. They equip a student with specialist knowledge and skills, enabling entry to employment or progression to a related higher education course.