



Purpose Statement

**NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Performance
Skills
QN: 603/2960/9**

Who is this qualification for?

This qualification is designed for learners who want an introduction to performance that includes a vocational and project-based element. The qualification will appeal to learners who wish to pursue a career in the Performance sector or progress onto further study.

The NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Performance Skills complements GCSE qualifications. It is aimed at 14-16 year olds studying Key Stage 4 curriculum who are interested in performance industry sector. This qualification is designed to match the rigour and challenge of GCSE study. The qualification is graded Level 1 Pass/Merit/Distinction/Distinction* and Level 2 Pass/Merit/Distinction/Distinction* (equivalent to GCSE grades 8.5–1). More information on grading can be found in Section 2.

This Level 1/2 qualification is appropriate for learners who are looking to develop a significant core knowledge and understanding of performance skills and be able to apply their learning.

This qualification has been designed to sit alongside the requirements of core GCSE subjects and is appropriate for learners who are motivated and challenged by learning through hands-on experiences and through content which is concrete and directly related to those experiences.

It is distinct from GCSE Drama, GCSE Music and GCSE Dance, as it encourages the learner to use knowledge and practical tools to focus on supporting people across a range of performance disciplines.

The study of performance skills involves understanding development as a performer, the performance industry, production and promotional roles, development of events, and the staging of a performance.

The qualification focuses on an applied study of the performance industry and learners will gain a broad understanding and knowledge of working in the sector.

What will the learner study as part of this qualification?

This qualification shows learners how to:

- understand how work is undertaken in the performance industry across a variety of disciplines
- understand performance, production and promotional roles across disciplines
- explore skills and qualities required to work in performance and technical roles
- apply performance and production skills in developing a performance
- work in performance, pre-production and production roles
- show creative and technical skills in response to a brief.

What knowledge and skills will the learner develop as part of this qualification and how might these be of use and value in further studies?

Learners will develop skills and knowledge:

- in adapting their own ideas and responding to feedback
- in evaluating their own work
- in applying technical and creative processes that are essential for the Performance sector, such as presentation skills; team working; independent working; working to deadlines; and efficient use of resources.

The knowledge and skills gained will provide a secure foundation for careers in the performance industry.

Which subjects will complement this course?

The following GCSE subject areas will complement this qualification by further broadening application of performance, production and promotion skills in the context of performance:

- English
- business
- music
- dance.

This list is not exhaustive and a range of other subject areas may also be appropriate.

This qualification is not part of a subject suite.

Progression opportunities - what could this qualification lead to?

Depending on the grade the learner achieves in this qualification, they could progress onto Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications and/or GCSE/A Levels.

Learners who achieve at **Level 1** might consider progression to Level 2 qualifications post-16 such as:

- a GCSE in Drama
- a GCSE in Music
- a GCSE in Dance
- study at Level 2 in a range of technical routes that have been designed for progression to employment, Apprenticeships and further study. An example might include the Level 2 Technical Award in Music Technology. Technical certificate qualifications provide post-16 learners with the knowledge and skills they need for skilled employment or for further technical study.

Learners who achieve at **Level 2** might consider progression to Level 3 qualifications post-16 such as:

- Level 3 Applied General in Music Technology. This qualification prepares learners for progression to higher education in the performance sector.

- Level 3 Technical Level in Performing Arts. This qualification prepares learners for progression into employment or onto an Apprenticeship through specialising in a technical occupation in the performance skills sector. Technical Level qualifications provide post-16 learners with the knowledge and skills they need for skilled employment or for further technical study.
- A Level in Performing Arts. This will support progression to higher education.
- Learners could also progress into employment or onto an Apprenticeship.

The understanding and skills gained through this qualification could be useful to progress onto an Apprenticeship in the performance sector through a variety of occupations such as a Production Assistant, Creative Venue Technician or Assistant Technical Director.