

World class thinking. World class achieving.

St Mary's College

PERFORMING ARTS

Level 3 suite
Pre-course reading and guidance



Performing Arts



Instagram: [SMCperformingarts](#)



Level 3 Performing Arts

WHY SHOULD I CHOOSE PERFORMING ARTS?

The Performing Arts qualifications are an exciting and challenging journey from GCSE to Vocational College or University. Performances throughout the year in varying styles will satisfy your desire for 'stage-time' and theory elements will broaden your knowledge and appreciation of cultural, social and historical influences in the world of theatre.

We offer independent qualifications in Acting and Dance (both worth 1.5 A level Equivalent) and our impressive full time course (3 A level Equivalent).



Level 3 Performing Arts

The courses we offer

- Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Performing Arts (Dance) (1.5 A-Level Equivalent) Click [here](#) for the specification
- Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Performing Arts (Acting) (1.5 A-Level equivalent) Click [here](#) for the specification
- Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (3 A-Level Equivalent) Click [here](#) for the specification



Level 3 Performing Arts

BTEC LEVEL 3 Foundation Diploma in
Dance (1.5 A-Level 84 UCAS Points)

Four internally assessed units covering:

- › Jazz
- › Street dance
- › Contemporary
- › Community Theatre

Two externally assessed examinations

- 1 written theory (Unit 1)
- 1 written & performance based (Unit 3)



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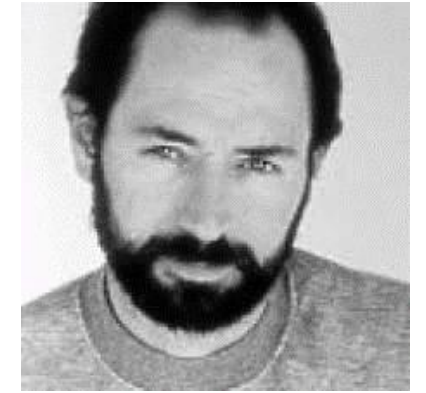


Level 3 Performing Arts

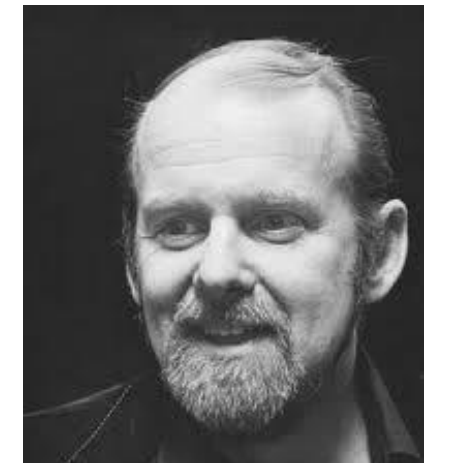
BTEC LEVEL 3 Foundation Diploma in Dance (1.5 A-Level – 84 UCAS Points)

Practitioner studies:

- Matthew Bourne
- Christopher Bruce
- Andrew Winghart
- Martha Graham
- Bob Fosse
- Street Dance styles



Click to learn more
about each person



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Level 3 Performing Arts

BTEC LEVEL 3 Foundation Diploma in Dance (1.5 A-Level – 84 UCAS Points)

Our teaching staff:

- ✓ Trained in all major disciplines of dance.
- ✓ National Curriculum and Dance Examination boards trained (ISTD & RAD)
- ✓ Previous work includes West End productions, backing dancers for TV music videos and performances. Janet Cram Choreography award winner. Royal Family commissioned piece of work.
- ✓ Fully trained in Anatomy and Physiology
- ✓ Trained at a mixture of both university and stage schools

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Level 3 Performing Arts

BTEC LEVEL 3 Foundation Diploma in Acting (1.5 A-Level – 84 UCAS Points)

Drama at SM6

Four internally assessed units covering:

- Improvisation
- Theatre directing
- Developing skills and techniques
- Community Theatre

Two externally assessed examinations:

- 1 written theory (Unit 1)
- 1 written and (group) performance based (Unit 4)





Level 3 Performing Arts

BTEC LEVEL 3 Foundation Diploma in Acting (1.5 A-Level – 84 UCAS Points)

Practitioner studies:

- Stanislavski
- Bertolt Brecht
- Joan Littlewood
- Steven Berkoff
- Artaud
- DV8
- Frantic Assembly



Click to learn more about each person



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Level 3 Performing Arts

BTEC LEVEL 3 Foundation Diploma in Acting (1.5 A-Level – 84 UCAS Points)

Our teaching staff:

- Highly experienced and skilled practitioners
- Previous work includes UK tours
- Community Theatre experts
- Devised theatre companies

Perfect balance of practical and theoretical experience.



Level 3 Performing Arts

BTEC LEVEL 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (3 A-Level) 168 UCAS Points

9 internally assessed units :

- Developing Skills
- Improvisation
- Theatre Directing
- Choreography
- Classical Theatre
- Children's Theatre
- Musical Theatre
- Singing Techniques
- Final Live Performance

4 externally assessed units:

- Investigating Practitioners (3 hour written exam) Unit 1
- Group Performance Practical and Written Exam(Unit 3)
- Individual Commission Solo Performance and Written Exam (Unit 5)
- Performing Arts Business Written Proposal Digital Portfolio (Unit 7)

Some internal units are subject to change



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Level 3 Performing Arts



BTEC LEVEL 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (3 A-Level) 168 UCAS Points

As well as the practitioners on the Dance and Acting course, you will also have the added benefit of studying the following practitioners:

- Andrew Lloyd Webber
- Stephen Sondheim





Level 3 Performing Arts

Unit 1 – Investigating Practitioners

- › This is an intensive 4 week long research project, culminating in a 3 hour written examination. You will be given a theme from the exam board and will be required to link two world class practitioners to that theme. Although we don't know what the theme will be for the next examination series, we know that some practitioners lend themselves to this unit.
- › We have a vast knowledge on these units and we would like to present a few books, journals, podcasts, websites that you could use to best prepare yourself for the commencement of the course.



Level 3 Performing Arts

Unit 1 – Investigating Practitioners

You are required to understand and argue the following influences for your practitioners:

- Historical influences
- Political Influences
- Social Influences
- Cultural Influences
- Technological Influences
- Geographical Influences
- Economical Influences
- Influences from other people

It is worth pointing out that Extended Diploma students (full time course) will be required to study all practitioners from both the Acting and Dance Foundation Diploma Courses.

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Level 3 Performing Arts

Foundation Diploma in Dance Extended Diploma in Performance Arts

Unit 1 – Investigating Practitioners

- › It is advisable to complete research on Matthew Bourne and Christopher Bruce.
- › Matthew Bourne:
- › The full production of Swan Lake can be found [here](#)
- › The full production of the Nutcracker can be found [here](#)

Reading materials can be located by clicking on the links:

- › [Swan Lake](#)
- › [The Nutcracker](#)
- › <https://matthewbourne.weebly.com/biography.html>



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Level 3 Performing Arts

Foundation Diploma in Dance Extended Diploma in Performance Arts

Unit 1 – Investigating Practitioners – DANCE STUDENTS

It is advisable for you to complete research on Matthew Bourne and Christopher Bruce.

- › Christopher Bruce: sadly, a lot of this practitioners work is unavailable online. We have all of the facilities and resources on-site, but to support your knowledge pre-course commencement, there are numerous online interviews and newspaper articles such as this one (from 45 minutes in)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IfLi0apW1j0&list=PLin81t89IQ7kVxGYozVQzpbO-OV4DrkOA>
- › Ghost Dance guide can be found [here](#)
- › Swansong guide can be found [here](#)



Level 3 Performing Arts

Foundation Diploma in Acting Extended Diploma in Performance Arts

Unit 1 – Investigating Practitioners

The main two practitioners to study for this unit are Frantic Assembly and DV8 (links on the previous pages)

Research packs for these can be found here:

- [Frantic Assembly – Things I know to be true](#)
- [DV8 – Enter Achilles](#) – From page 65



Level 3 Performing Arts

Foundation Diploma in Dance

Foundation Diploma in Acting

Extended Diploma in Performance Arts

Unit 3 – Group Performance

- Students on any of our Level 3 courses will be required to complete Unit 3 – Group Performance. This is a practical and written external examination, with a heavier weighting on the written elements.
- Again, you will be set a brief and a theme by the exam board. You will need to respond to the brief in groups between 3-7 in size to create a 12-20 minute performance, using techniques of different practitioners.
- You are required to write 4x1hr (up to 800 words) milestone activities which outline the decisions your group has made, and why.



Level 3 Performing Arts

Extended Diploma in Performance Arts

Unit 5– Individual Commission

- › Students on our Level 3 Extended Diploma (full time course) courses will be required to complete unit 5 – Individual Commission. This is a practical and written external examination, with equal weighting.
- › Again, you will be set a brief and a theme by the exam board. You will need to respond to the brief independently by writing out a commission for a performance that meets the demands of the brief.
- › You will also be required to rehearse and perform your performance, using new and/or adapting existing material, for a solo performance of 5-8 minutes.
- › To complete this examination, you will need to sit a written element where you evaluate the effectiveness of your performance.



Level 3 Performing Arts

Extended Diploma in Performance Arts

Unit 7 – Performing Arts Business

Students on our Level 3 Extended Diploma (full time course) course will be required to complete Unit 7 – Performing Arts Business.

This examination has two parts to it:

- The first being a written outline to a given theme from the exam board.
- The second part of the examination asks you to produce a digital portfolio which showcases your ability to achieve your previously outlined ideas.



Level 3 Performing Arts

We have put together a list of books, plays, films, you can watch or read. Although not the full list, this will go some way to assist you as you transition into Level 3 courses.

Playscripts

- One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest - can be purchased [here](#)
- Things I Know To Be True - can be purchased [here](#)
- The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time - can be purchased [here](#)
- A Doll's House - can be purchased [here](#)
- The Cherry Orchard - can be purchased [here](#) or viewed here:
- Part 1 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CtrbZx6AOxQ>
- Part 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RA8A8F8uErQ>
- Part 3 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E72A1GoW548>
- Part 4 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1VzXuQZEN4>
- 'Metamorphosis' & 'The Trail' - can be purchased [here](#) and an amateur production [here](#)
- Teechers - can be purchased – can be purchased [here](#)
- Abigail's Party - can be purchased [here](#) and/or [youtube purchase](#)



Level 3 Performing Arts

General websites and books that will support other units both internally and externally

Websites

Digital theatre plus you can watch

- › <https://www.franticassembly.co.uk/>
- › <https://www.dv8.co.uk/>

Books

- › The Frantic Assembly Book of Devising Theatre
- › Stanislavski: The Basics
- › Building a Character
- › Commedia Dell'Arte: An Actor's Handbook
- › Steven Berkoff and The Theatre of Self-Performance
- › Introduction to modern dance techniques
- › Matthew Bourne and his adventures in dance



ST MARY'S SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Performing Arts

Delivering a tried and tested curriculum

Applications are now open for our September 2020 intake for our fantastic post 16 courses in:

- **Acting**
- **Dance**
- **Music**
- **Full Time Performing Arts**

With a wealth of extensive experience within the arts, our teaching faculty provide all aspects of your training from developing techniques, performance skills, audition preparation and pastoral care.

With 100% of all students being offered university or vocational placements, it's easy to see why SM6 is the best place for you to continue your training.

#createyourfuture



World class thinking. World class achieving.



Level 3 Performing Arts

We thought it would also be good to give you an overview into some of the extra-curricular activities and opportunities that happen here at SM6, as well as some of our recent successes from students. We hope you enjoy!

Student opportunities:

- › BBC Children in Need televised performance
- › BBC Radio WESTENDERS Live recorded broadcast
- › National podcast with star of Hamilton: The Musical
- › On the spot audition offers
- › Live televised performance at the F1 British Grand Prix
- › Performance at 10 Downing Street
- › Student-led, full scale professional pantomime



Our professional links

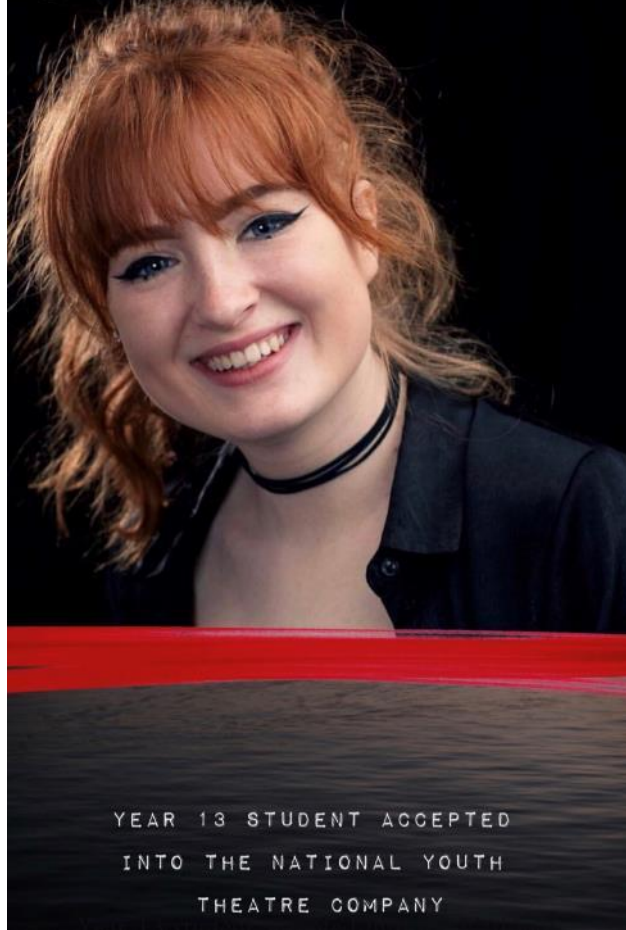
We are proud to have the links with the following establishments:

- SLP College, Leeds
- Leeds City College
- The Royal Shakespeare Company
- The Brighton Academy
- ROM Theatre Arts
- 2Faced Dance Company
- McMillan Nursery
- Hull City Council



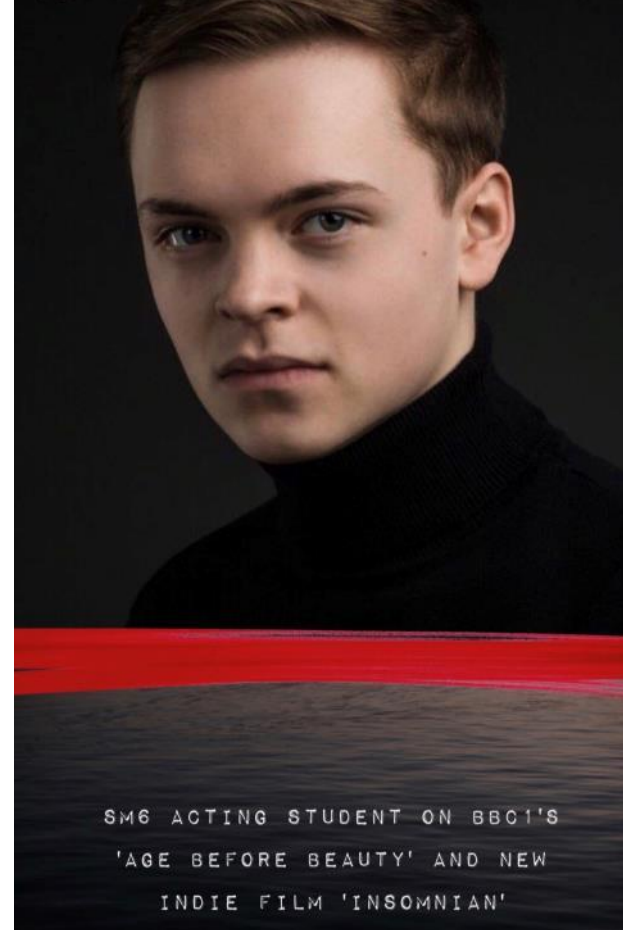
“Arts have a brilliant place in our education system. The team you have here are brilliant. The students are in very safe hands. The staff are fantastic.”

Oliver Tompsett (West End leading male)
Currently starring in ‘&Juliet’



PHOEBE GARNER

Accepted into
the National
Youth Theatre
Company of
Great Britain



LEX STEPHENSON

Currently at the
Brighton Academy.
Appeared in BBC1's
'AGE BEFORE
BEAUTY'

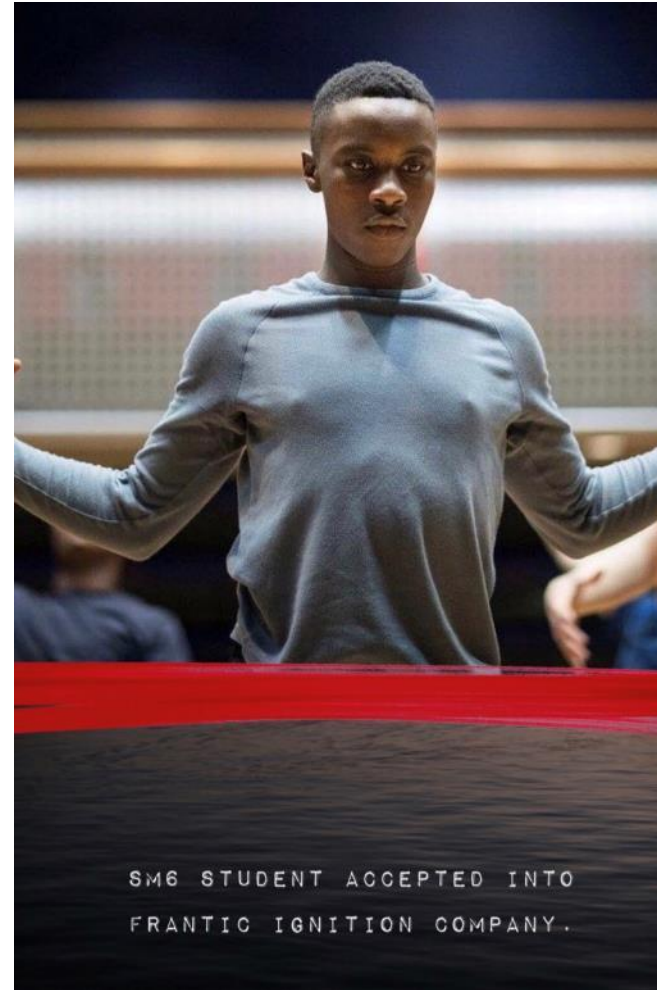


"I really enjoyed my time at SMC and all the skills and opportunities it gave me, leading me to where I am today and I'll never forget all the fun memories from it!"



HOLLY ROBINSON

Studying Film, Theatre and Live TV Broadcast at Northern School of Art.



CHIKO CHINYADZA

One of twelve young men from across the country to make it into Frantic Assembly's 'Frantic Ignition' company.



EMILIO ENCINOSO-GIL

Studying BA (Hons) Acting at
the Academy of Live and
Recorded Arts (ALRA)

*I was at St Mary's for nearly half of my life and the time I spent
doing the full time Performing Arts course was unbelievable!
I can't think of anything I was taught that I haven't carried
through to my current training now!
The time spent there will be with me forever!*



CHLOE CARTER

Studying Performing Arts
at The Brighton Academy

*My time at St Mary's was a time where I began
becoming the person I am today. I met lots of amazing
people and had some great opportunities such
as Westenders live!*



AMBER BROGATZSKI
Studying Performing Arts
at The Brighton Academy

St Mary's provided me with the information and the opportunity to audition for The Brighton Academy in the first place, which resulted in me being offered a place on their three year degree programme. I shall always be forever grateful to the staff who worked tirelessly to ensure I was matched to the correct establishment. St Mary's gave me the foundations and toolkit to continue my professional training.



BRIDIE FLANAGAN
Studying BA (Hons) Musical
Theatre at the University of
Chichester

I left St Mary's three years ago now, leaving such a talented sixth form that thrives on making every student better.



Any further questions?

Contact details of lead teacher of Performing Arts:

BLancaster@smchull.org

Mr B Lancaster

We also offer BTEC National Level 3 Extended Certificate in Music Performance

Please see the relevant pre-course reading and guidance for further details.

Get a snapshot of our Performing Arts students in action in this YouTube video:

https://youtu.be/92YZJKW70_8