Acting is discovering the CHARACTER you’re playing through your own experience, SO WE’RE ALL DIFFERENT.

SIR IAN MCKELLEN
Performing Arts (Theatre)

What will I study?
This course combines practical and academic skills. You will be introduced to a range of acting styles, theatre practitioners and texts. This will strengthen your ability to analyse theatre and will develop your performance skills through extensive practical work.

The course is predominantly practical but will also provide you with theoretical knowledge to deepen your understanding of drama through the ages, through to contemporary theatre.

During the two years of the course you will study 4 units which incorporate:

- Investigating the work of practitioners
- Developing skills and techniques for live performance
- Group performance workshop
- Acting styles

What’s assessed?
Units are assessed using a blend of external and internal forms of assessment. Both practical and written assessments formulate the outcomes including set tasks, logs, evaluation, examination assessment and demonstration of practical and technical skills using appropriate tools and processes.

What are the entry requirements for this course?
- In addition to the college entry requirements, entry onto this course requires a positive outcome at the audition workshop
- Grade 4 in English Language.
- We ask that all students have a passion for theatre and performance and are enthusiastic about their studies as it is a demanding course.

It is not necessary to have studied Drama or Performing arts at GCSE Level but you must be willing and confident to perform in front of your peers.

Why should I choose the BTEC Extended Certificate in Performing Arts (Theatre)?
The qualification is a nationally recognised qualification, directly equivalent to an A level (of equal value in UCAS points) and is highly valued by Universities and Drama schools.

The course will develop your skills in performance, creativity and communication. You will have the opportunity to act in a range of performances to hone your skills for your next step.

This course offers a foundation for progression to university to study a Performance related course or to Drama school and then potentially into a career in the industry.

Many other subjects complement this qualification not least English, Media, Film, History, Art and creative subjects. There are many transferable skills you will gain.

Recent leavers of the department have gone on to study at prestigious institutions such as The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, LIPA, East 15, ALRA and Rose Bruford. Others have continued their studies in a range of disciplines including English, Law, Psychology at excellent institutions such as Goldsmiths, The University of Manchester, The University of Warwick and many other Russell Group institutions.

This is a subject that is worth much more than just a qualification. It allows you to develop so many valuable skills, both in a professional and personal sense.

Studying at Carmel has boosted my confidence and has made me part of an active and warm community within the department. The teaching and resources available are phenomenal. I can’t recommend this course enough.

The college as a whole is just as impressive. Here you get a feeling of independence that you just don’t get at high school. The staff at Carmel are all extremely friendly and are dedicated to helping you achieve and surpass your goals.

There are so many opportunities for trips and activities such as the many trips to see live theatre performances and workshops from some of the most prestigious Drama Schools. I’ve met some amazing new people along the way. After Carmel, I’m hoping to go on to university and eventually become a primary school teacher.

Adam Wright
De La Salle
Studying: Drama and Theatre, English Language, History, English Literature
What is the Performing Arts department like?

This is a lively and ever expanding department. Currently there is one designated tutor who teaches on the course. The department has a large purpose built theatre that has an audience capacity of 200 and a fully equipped rehearsal studio. Students are encouraged to use this space for additional rehearsals when they desire. The theory classroom is well resourced with relevant scripts, plays, DVDs and textbooks. Additionally, students have access to the changing rooms which have locker and shower facilities.

What support will I receive?

A range of supportive measures are designed for you to succeed. Lessons are only one aspect of course delivery. Tutorials are offered to enable students to discuss their progress in more detail. Homework provides the opportunity for a weekly assessment and feedback on progress, whilst unit feedback is more detailed. Opportunities exist for students to work in the theatre space over lunch, break times and after college. The tutor offers support in suggesting suitable theatre visits and sources of information for research purposes.

The tutor is open and friendly and lessons are lively and engaging. We have received the highest praise for student support in inspections of the department.

What other activities will I get involved in?

Studying Performing Arts (Theatre) provides numerous opportunities to get involved with extra-curricular activities and this is actively encouraged. We place great importance on the benefits of enrichment and provide Theatre based events and performance pieces both in house and in the wider community. There is a range of opportunities in which to participate, from the production of plays, cabarets and theatre workshops to educational visits, in house seminars and masterclasses. Over the two years of study the department also provides regular theatre visits and trips, a variety of superb High Achiever opportunities as well as bespoke guidance for Drama School and University application and audition support.

You will be taught by a highly qualified and experienced practitioner of Theatre with extensive specialist knowledge and experience both in the world of teaching and the acting profession.
This is the subject where I get to release any pressures or struggles and just focus on drama. It’s teaching me how to deal with everyday tasks like working in a group, delegating tasks or communicating different points of view whilst working on my confidence. Exploring and creating material is magical! It requires a lot of time and effort but I get lost in it!

My class is wonderful and we work hard to support one another, regardless of theatrical experience. The lessons are really engaging and thought provoking too. So far, I’ve also been on several theatre visits and drama school workshops which are on offer throughout the year. This is just a phenomenal subject to study!

Emma Kevan
Fazakerley High School
Studying: Drama & Theatre, English Literature, Psychology

MEET THE TUTOR

Erinna Delaney
Head of Performing Arts (Theatre)

Erinna graduated from Liverpool University with a BA Hons in Fine Art and Drama and then went on to study a Masters Degree in Theatre at Goldsmiths College, finally gaining her PGCE at UCLAN. Erinna has taught within the Performing Arts for many years alongside her professional career in acting. In addition to teaching, Erinna is also a qualified Person Centred Counsellor and a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.