What do you particularly enjoy about studying this subject?

I absolutely love this course. It helps you make new friends and connections much easier than any other subject I know and, in some ways, you become a little family. You start to understand yourself more as a person and others around you. Since I started on this course, I have felt like my confidence has risen so much due to taking part in group activities with new people, speaking and also performing in front of them too.

How much work is involved? (hours in lessons / outside of lessons)

Performing Arts can be a very time-consuming subject but at the same time, it is so rewarding. Each lesson we have is 2 hours long and we have two of them a week. This can be either practical or theory work, where we have discussions as a group, take down notes or go into the theatre to do small group performances or drama games that enhance our skills. Outside of lessons there is more work to be completed, for example case studies, as well as revision of things that you have already done in class. There are a lot of things to remember on this course so revising is very important to get the top marks.

If you studied the subject at GCSE how different is studying it at A Level/BTEC Level 3?

I studied this subject at GCSE level and really enjoyed it. It is quite different in terms of there is more work-load at this level and also there are more research elements to this course at A-level/BTEC, due to it being a BTEC. Also, at BTEC level, I feel like these is a lot more independence on you as a student.
How are you assessed and how regularly?
As this course is a BTEC, you are being constantly assessed. All your work that you have completed goes towards what your final grade could be. It’s great because then I know that I’m where I need to be at and what I need to do to improve.

What support have you received and is support available if you don’t understand something?
There is always support available in the department. The teacher is always there to answer anything that you have to ask and there are also drop-in sessions where you can go to, to complete work or revise certain things with the teacher there. If you’re not in college and you need the support the teacher will always email or message you back with the support needed.

Have you received careers support and what are your future plans?
I have talked about my future career plans with some members of staff in college and would love to become an actor. This course will really help me get to where I want to be, whether that’s drama school or university, due to the fact that the teaching is amazing and this subject really helps you enhance your knowledge and ability to become a great actor. The teaching that I have received already on this course has helped me to start thinking properly about where I want to go in the future with this subject.

Visit our website for more information about our BTEC Performing Arts course