

# Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Firsts in Performing Arts (NQF)

## Guidance on pathways

The next generation BTEC First Performing Arts specification offers a choice of pathways for learners designed to provide programmes of study to suit individual needs.

This summary:

- outlines the pathway options available in all sizes, and
- offers some guidance on delivering and assessing across multiple pathways in the Award size.

For more information about the BTEC Firsts in Performing Arts, download the full specification at [www.btec.co.uk/2012](http://www.btec.co.uk/2012).

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### 1. What pathways are available for BTEC Firsts in Performing Arts?

The pathways available in each size of qualification are:

#### BTEC Firsts in Performing Arts - Pathways

Award	Certificate	Extended Certificate	Diploma*
Acting	Acting	Acting	Acting
Dance	Dance	Dance	Dance
Production	Production	Production	Production
Musical Theatre	Musical Theatre	Musical Theatre	Musical Theatre
Music Performance			

\*Subject to Ofqual accreditation

### 2. Can I register learners on more than one pathway?

Yes – but only in the Award size.

#### 2.1 Award size

It is possible to register learners on more than one pathway in the Award size of the next generation BTEC Firsts in Performing Arts. This means that learners can achieve, for example, individual BTEC First Awards in both Dance and Acting.

#### 2.2 Certificate, Extended Certificate and Diploma sizes

The Extended Certificate and Diploma\* sizes include an unendorsed 'pathway' which should be used to build a single, multi-disciplinary course. The Certificate does not have an unendorsed 'pathway' so learners working in more than one discipline should register for an Extended Certificate or Diploma\*.

This means learners will be able to complete units from a variety of pathways to build a **single** programme that includes both or all relevant areas.

\* The Diploma size is subject to Ofqual accreditation

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### 3. I work in a school in England – does that mean that each of the individual pathways in the Award will count towards headline measures?

No. If you register learners on more than one pathway for an Award, **only one of the pathways will count towards headline measures**, as all pathways form part of the same specification.

If you are registering learners for more than one pathway in the Award size, we would recommend you consider registering them on one of the larger sizes of the qualification instead. The Certificate and Extended Certificate are designed to ensure students follow a broad route of study, whatever main specialism they chose, and they do count towards headline performance measures in England.

### 4. If I do have learners registered on more than one pathway in the Award size, what does that mean for delivering:

#### 4.1 the internally assessed core unit that is common across all pathways?

*Unit 2: Preparation, Performance and Production* appears in all pathways of the next generation BTEC First Award in Performing Arts.

**Learners must complete the unit once for each pathway** in order to maintain the standard of the qualification, **submitting separate and discrete evidence appropriate to each of the pathways** they are working in.

Learners **cannot** submit the same evidence for units which are **taken in more than one pathway**; we can only award an endorsed qualification on the basis of evidence uniquely related to each specific pathway taken.

**This means that learners taking multiple pathways in the Award size should take part in a separate performance for *Unit 2: Preparation, Performance and Production* for each of the pathways they are working on.**

**Standards Verifiers are trained to check that learners who are completing more than one pathway complete separate evidence appropriate to each pathway.**

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### 4.2 the externally assessed core unit that is common across all pathways?

*Unit 1: Individual Showcase* also appears in all pathways of the next generation BTEC First Award in Performing Arts.

**Learners must complete the unit once for each pathway they are working on, submitting evidence appropriate to that pathway.**

To ensure that there is no duplication of evidence, learners completing Unit 1 twice in the same year **must** submit work for **different** Progression Opportunities in the test paper.

We may advise learners to complete the individual showcases in separate years to ensure they have the full range of choices available each time.

One examiner will mark all submissions from each centre; the examiner will check that learners completing more than one pathway have submitted different work for each of the two different individual progression opportunities.

### 5. If I have learners registered on more than one pathway in the Award size, can I combine evidence for *Unit 2: Preparation, Performance and Production* from both pathways into one combined performance for the purposes of internal assessment?

No. You must provide separate and discrete evidence for each unit studied and assessed in each pathway. Even if units are common between the two pathways, you can co-teach the content if you wish, but you must create two completely separate assessments which test the knowledge and skills unique to each pathway.

This means that learners following two individual pathways in the Award size must part in two separate performances, each demonstrating the individual skills appropriate to that specific pathway.