

Pearson Higher Nationals in Performing Arts

Qualification Guide

First Teaching from September 2018

First Certification from 2019



Level
BTEC
Higher
National
Certificate



Level
BTEC
Higher
National
Diploma



Introducing your new Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals in Performing Arts

BTEC is the world's most successful and best-loved applied learning brand, engaging students in practical, interpersonal and thinking skills for more than thirty years.

Pearson BTECs are work-related qualifications for students taking their first steps into employment or those already in employment and seeking career development opportunities. Pearson BTECs provide progression into the workplace either directly or via study at university and are also designed to meet employer's needs. Pearson BTEC Higher National qualifications are therefore widely recognised by industry and higher education as the principal technical professional qualification at Levels 4 and 5.

The Pearson BTEC Higher National Certificate (HNC) is at level 4 (the same as the first year of a UK honours degree).

The Pearson BTEC Higher National Diploma (HND) is at level 4 and level 5 (the same as the first two years of a UK honours degree).

A word from our subject expert

It's with great pleasure that I introduce the new Higher National in Performing Arts programme. Teaching and working in the creative industries for many years, has given me the opportunity to see first hand the life changing opportunities education can provide, and we have worked very hard to ensure this new qualification offers the content and career goals.

The programme is more aligned to UKHE and new updated content will make it both a stimulating and exciting experience for students and teachers. Centres can deliver with confidence a programme that will prepare and equip students for working in the Performing Arts Industry

I am here to provide guidance, advice and support on every aspect of the programme and its implementation and will welcome your views and feedback. I will be posting news and updates on the HN Global forum so please get registered and join the online discussions.

I look forward to working with you!

Fiona



Professional courses developed collaboratively with subject experts

With input from industry, employers, professional bodies, tutors, students, and higher education institutions, your new Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals have been designed to better meet the needs of a changing market. The result is a qualification suite designed and developed to meet professional standards, recognised by employers and universities, which develop not only academic skills and abilities, but work-readiness skills.

The objectives of the redevelopment of the BTEC Higher Nationals have been to ensure:

- employer engagement;
- work relatedness;
- opportunities for progression to further higher education;
- alignment with UK higher education expectations; and
- qualifications which are up to date with current professional practice and include professional accreditation and opportunities to gain vendor certification where possible.

What's new?

For your new Pearson BTEC Higher National qualifications, we are building on what you've told us you value most:

- **Essential subject knowledge** needed by students to progress successfully into further study or to the world of work or continued employment;
- **A simplified structure students** undertake a substantial core of learning, required by all, with specialisms in the Higher National Certificate, building on this in the Higher National Diploma, with further specialist and optional units linked to their specialist area of study;
- **Five specialist pathways** One general and four specialist pathways at Level 4 and 5 so there is something to suit each student's preference for study and future progression plans;
- **Refreshed content** that is closely aligned with professional bodies', employers' and higher education needs for a skilled future workforce;
- **Assessments that consider cognitive skills** (what students know) along with affective and psychomotor skills (what they can do and how they behave);
- **An assessment strategy** that supports progression to Level 6 studies and also allows centres to offer assessment relevant to the local employers, thereby accommodating and enhancing different learning styles;
- **Unit-specific grading and Pearson-set assignments**
- **Robust quality assurance measures** that serve to ensure that all stakeholders (e.g. professional bodies, universities, employers, centres and students) can feel confident in the integrity and the integrity and value of the qualification.

Flexible choice of subject areas and progression opportunities

The new HNC and HND qualifications in Performing Arts offer a choice of one General Performing Arts pathway and the choice of four specialist pathways (please note the general pathways only exists in the HNC):

- Acting
- Musical Theatre
- Dance
- Technical Arts

Each Higher National unit has a clear purpose: to cater for the increasing need for high quality professional and technical education pathways at levels 4 and 5, providing students with a clear line of sight to employment or progression to a degree at level 6. The Higher National Certificate (HNC) is a Level 4 qualification made up of 120 credits. It is usually studied full-time over one year, or part-time over two years.

The Higher National Diploma (HND) is a Level 4 and Level 5 qualification made up of 240 credits. It is usually studied full-time over two years, or part-time over four years. BTEC Higher Nationals consist of core units, specialist units and optional units:

- Core units are mandatory
- Required combinations of optional units are clearly set out in the tables.

BTEC Level 4

Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Performing Arts (Dance)

1 The Performing Arts Industry (Pearson-set)

2 Professional Development

Centres must select one of the following groups:

Group A

4 Ballet 1

Plus five optional units from Optional Unit Bank Level 4 (see right)

Group B

3 Jazz Dance 1

Plus five optional units from Optional Unit Bank Level 4 (see right)

Group C

5 Contemporary Dance 1

Plus five optional units from Optional Unit Bank Level 4 (see right)

Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Performing Arts (General)

1 The Performing Arts Industry (Pearson-set)

2 Professional Development

Plus 6 Optional Level 4 units

Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)

1 The Performing Arts Industry (Pearson-set)

2 Professional Development

3 Jazz Dance 1

13 Singing 1

14 Acting 1

Plus three optional units from Optional Unit Bank Level 4 (see below)

Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Performing Arts (Acting)

1 The Performing Arts Industry (Pearson-set)

2 Professional Development

13 Acting 1

18 Voice and Speech for Actors

Plus four optional units from Optional Unit Bank Level 4 (see below)

Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Performing Arts (Technical Arts)

1 The Performing Arts Industry (Pearson-set)

2 Professional Development

21 Production Communication

22 Stagecraft

Plus four optional units from Optional Unit Bank Level 4 (see below)

Optional Unit Bank Level 4

3 Jazz Dance 1	13 Acting 1	23 Lighting Operation
4 Ballet 1	14 Musical Theatre History in Practice	24 Sound Operation
5 Contemporary Dance 1	15 Ensemble Singing	25 Special FX
6 Commercial Dance 1	16 Vocal Repertoire	26 Scenic Construction
7 Tap 1	17 Acting for Camera	27 Costume Construction
8 American Tap	18 Voice and Speech for Actors	28 Hair and Make-up Application
9 Choreography 1	19 Movement for Actors	29 Crewing
10 Investigation of Specialism	20 Devising Theatre and Performance	30 Fashion and Fashion Editorial Hair and Makeup
11 Dance for Camera	21 Production Communication	31 Period Hair and Makeup
12 Singing 1	22 Stagecraft	

Core Units

Specialist Units

Optional Units

Flexible choice of subject areas and progression opportunities

BTEC Level 5

Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Performing Arts (Dance)
32 Creative Research Project (Pearson-set)
33 Working in the Performing Arts Industry
Centres must select one of the following groups:
Group D
35 Ballet 2
Plus four optional units from Optional Unit Bank Level 5 (see right)
Group E
34 Jazz Dance 2
Plus four optional units from Optional Unit Bank Level 5 (see right)
Group F
36 Contemporary Dance 2
Plus four optional units from Optional Unit Bank Level 5 (see right)

Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)
32 Creative Research Project (Pearson-set)
33 Working in the Performing Arts Industry
39 Dance for Musical Theatre
43 Singing 2
44 Acting 2
Plus two optional units from Optional Unit Bank Level 5 (see right)

Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Performing Arts (Acting)
30 Creative Research Project (Pearson-set)
31 Working in the Performing Arts Industry
42 Acting 2
Plus four optional units from Optional Unit Bank Level 5 (see below)

Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Performing Arts (Technical Arts)
30 Creative Research Project (Pearson-set)
31 Working in the Performing Arts Industry
53 Management Role
Plus four optional units from Optional Unit Bank Level 5 (see below)

Core Units
Specialist Units
Optional Units

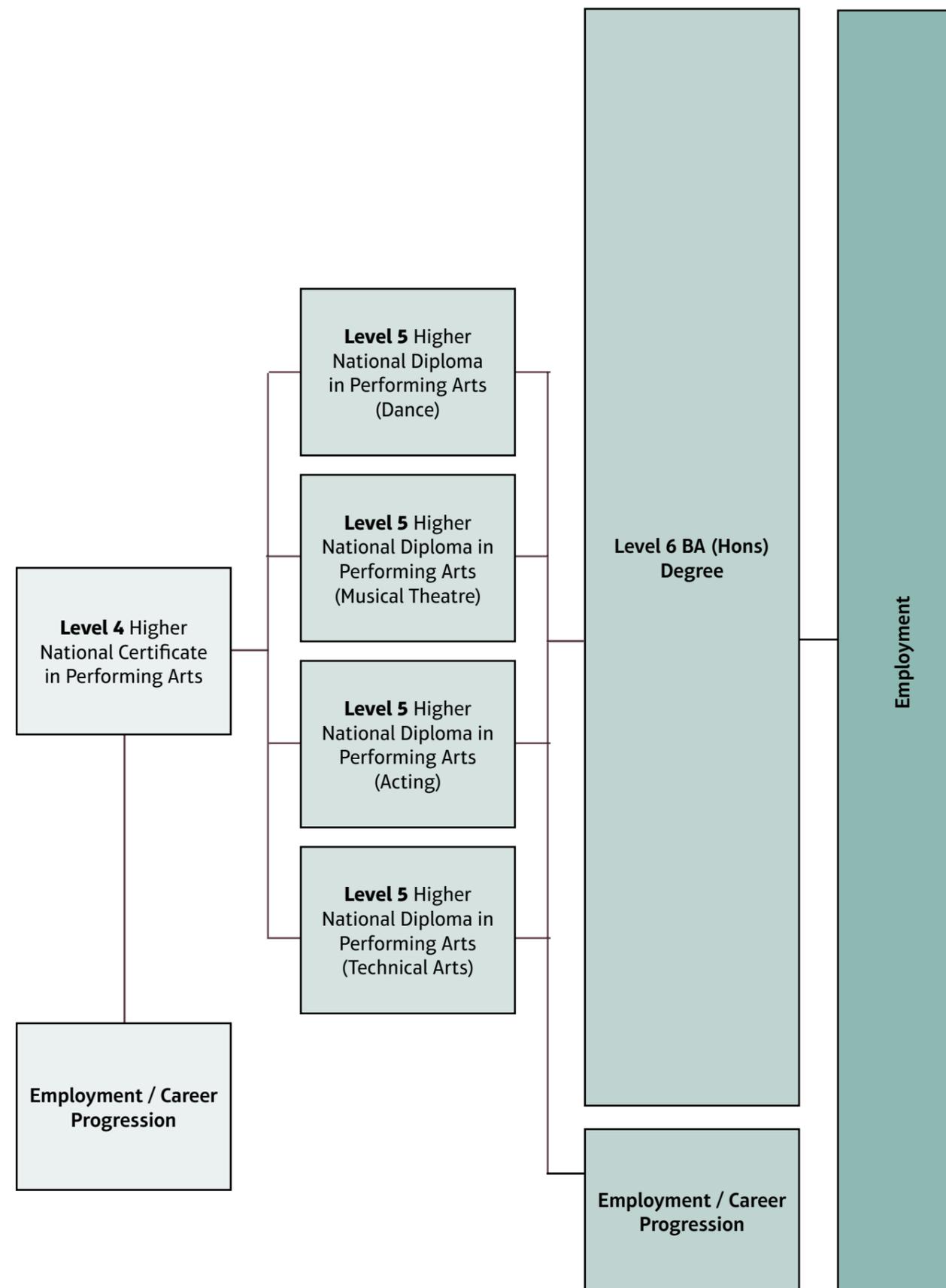
Optional Unit Bank Level 5	
32 Jazz Dance 2	49 Dance for Actors
33 Ballet 2	50 Performance Project
34 Contemporary Dance 2	51 Mask Acting
35 Commercial Dance 2	52 Production Design
36 Tap 2	53 Management Role
37 Dance for Musical Theatre	54 Sound Design
38 Partner Work	55 Lighting Design
39 Contact Improvisation	56 Set Design
40 Physical Theatre	57 Stage Management
41 Singing 2	58 Costume Design
42 Acting 2	59 Hair and Make-up Design
43 Immersive Theatre	60 Mask and Puppet Making
44 Auditioning	61 Working in Creative Education
45 Choreography 2	64 Directing
46 Classical Acting	65 The Freelance Hair and Makeup Artist
47 Producing Theatre	66 Special FX2
48 Voice Skills for Actors 2	

Progression opportunities:

The purpose of Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals in Performing Arts is to develop students as professional, self-reflecting individuals, able to meet the demands of employers in the Performing Arts sector and adapt to a constantly changing world. The qualifications aim to widen access to higher education and enhance the career prospects of those who undertake them.

On successful completion of the Level 5 Higher National Diploma, students can develop their careers in the engineering sector through:

- Entering employment;
- Continuing existing employment;
- Committing to Continuing Professional Development (CPD);
- Progressing to university.



Assessment Strategy

Pearson BTECs combine a student-centred approach with a flexible, unit-based structure. Students are required to apply their knowledge to a variety of assignments and activities, with a focus on the holistic development of practical, interpersonal and higher level thinking skills. Assessment reflects not only what the student knows but also what he or she can do to succeed in employment and higher education in an ethical manner.

Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals have always allowed for a variety of forms of assessment evidence to be used, provided they are suited to the type of learning outcomes being assessed. For many units, the practical demonstration of skills is necessary and, for others, students will need to carry out their own research and analysis, working independently or as part of a team.

Resources

We are providing a wealth of support to ensure that tutors and students have the best possible experience during their course. We have worked with students and tutors worldwide to create an effective and interactive community for our qualifications, called HN Global, an exciting new online platform created by Pearson to engage with Higher National students and tutors around the world.

Created in parallel with the development of the new BTEC Higher National qualifications, HN Global houses a great number of resources for students to get the most out of their BTEC Higher National experience.

Pearson also offer Study Skills units to all learners – an online toolkit accessed on HN Global that supports the delivery, assessment and quality assurance of BTECs in centres.

www.highernationals.com

Do you need centre approval?

Providers wishing to deliver the new Pearson BTEC Higher National qualifications (Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals in Performing Arts - first teaching September 2018) will be subject to a new qualification approval process, more aligned with that used in UK Higher Education. Email hnqa@pearson.com or visit qualifications.pearson.com/higher-nationals for more information about the process.

FAQs

1. If a provider is already delivering the existing Higher National in Performing Arts qualifications do they still need to obtain approval for delivering the new qualification?

Yes, existing providers would still be required to gain approval for delivering the new Higher National qualification but the process will be simplified for centres that meet the auto approval criteria. Approval will then be provisionally granted subject to the return of a signed declaration and payment of the approval fee. More details can be found in the support section of our website <http://qualifications.pearson.com/>

2. How long will the approval process take?

This will depend on whether the provider is eligible for auto approval. Once an existing provider has been notified of eligibility for auto approval, the approval will remain provisional until the provider returns the signed declaration and approval. If an existing provider is ineligible and requires a desk based review, the review cannot begin until the provider confirms its intention to proceed and the approval fee is paid. New providers will go through the standard provider approval process which currently takes about 20 days.

3. Is it possible for students to change their pathway at the end of their first year on the course programme?

Yes it is. Providers will need to advise Pearson registrations team and they will be able to transfer the student's registration to the appropriate pathway.

4. If Pearson are providing Example Assessment Briefs, do providers still have to devise their own assignments and complete internal verification of assignments?

Yes they do. Example Assessment Briefs are for guidance and support only and can be customised and amended according to localised needs and requirements. All assignments must still be moderated as per the internal verification process.

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