

## Statement of Purpose

### 500/7102/6 – Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Production Arts (QCF)

The Production Arts are a key part of the creative and cultural industries in the UK. There are over 9,500 businesses and approximately 130,000 people working in the production arts sector of which 57% are self employed. In England, there are approximately 1000 including arts centres, circuses and theatres that use production arts related skills. The UK's creative industries have been identified as a strategic growth sector by the government.

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Production Arts (180 GLH) is part of a larger suite of Production Arts qualifications, in a range of sizes, which share the common purpose of helping people to become occupationally ready to take up employment in the performing arts sector at the appropriate level. This can follow either directly after achieving the qualification, or via the stepping stone of Higher Education (HE) in university or college. By studying a BTEC National, learners develop knowledge, understanding and skills required by the sector, including essential employability skills, and apply them in real work contexts. Learners can operate at a standard that can reasonably be expected of an 18 year old in full-time education.

**Within this suite, the Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Production Arts (180 GLH) is a vocational qualification, equivalent in size to an AS level**, which is designed to be taken alongside one or more substantial qualifications within a 16 to 19 study programme. The qualification provides learners with an element of sector specialism as part of their wider programme by developing a primary core of knowledge in the sector through distinctive mandatory content in each pathway. It also offers some opportunity for learners to focus their study on the aspects that will be of greatest value to them through a limited choice of optional units related to the pathway.

The qualification consists of the following pathways:

- Costume
- Make-up
- Set Design and Construction
- Stage Management
- Arts Management
- Theatre Technology.

These introduce and underpin the knowledge and skills that are regarded as most important by employers in each pathway within the sector. Each pathway has its own distinctive mandatory unit covering:

- costumed design skills
- make-up application
- stage design
- assistant stage management
- arts administration
- technical stage operations.

This qualification is therefore particularly appropriate for those with an interest in progressing to a career in the performing arts-related fields, who want to pursue this via a principally academic route and take it alongside other qualifications, such as an A Level in History, Drama and Theatre Studies or English Literature. It is also appropriate for those aged 16 who are ready to start an element of level 3 vocational study while completing aspects of their level 2 programme.

The qualification was designed in collaboration with industry, so has the specific support of the Sector Skills Councils (SSC) for the sector, Skillset and Creative and Cultural Skills. The Pearson

BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Production Arts supports entry to a variety of HE courses in this sector and beyond, when taken in conjunction with other qualifications. This is confirmed by the specific support of a range of universities. In addition, the qualification carries UCAS points – see details published on the Pearson website here:

<http://www.edexcel.com/i-am-a/student/results/Pages/BTEC-equivalence.aspx>