

GETTING READY FOR PACK

Creative and Performing Arts (Acting)

We are delighted you have chosen to study Performing Arts at Haywards Heath College

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Year 1

Planning for a Career in the Creative and Performing Arts

The purpose of this unit is to familiarise you with the processes associated with effective career planning. The aim of the unit is to provide opportunities to align/link your overarching career aims with the opportunities provided within the course.

Vocal Techniques (Acting)

The purpose of this unit is for you to work towards the creation of voice-overs, commentaries and broadcast material using your voice and the associated techniques.

Performance Preparation

The purpose of this unit is to prepare you for participation in a performance production by developing your understanding of the styles and contexts of performance genres, exploring and developing a range of skills and techniques required for auditions/interviews for roles in performance productions as well as developing your planning and rehearsal skills in collaboration with others.

Audition Techniques (Acting)

The purpose of this unit is to prepare you for auditions including developing successful strategies for preparation, organisation and time management to ensure that the audition runs smoothly and that you can be at your best. Audition techniques can also be applied more widely to interviews in the workplace where the ability to prepare and deliver a good interview relies on good planning and organisation as much as the techniques involved.

Year 2

Approaches to Acting

The purpose of this unit is to enable you to develop understanding of different approaches to acting and to gain practical experience of these approaches through performance.

Theatre in Education

The purpose of this unit is to work towards a performance for children and young people.

Acting for Camera	The purpose of this unit is to develop skills and techniques in acting for the camera.
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WHAT YOU NEED

You are a blank canvas as an actor and performer, and it is important that your performances are not impacted by the clothing that you wear in terms of this restricting your movement or your characterisation. Therefore, all performing arts students (Drama, Dance and CAPA) are required to wear all black clothing to a practical lesson and be prepared to work barefoot.

Equipment	<p style="text-align: right;"><u>General</u></p> <p>All:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laptop or Tablet - Notepad - Pen - Pencil and rubber - Highlighters <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Clothing</u></p> <p>All:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Black T-shirt - Black Leggings or Jogging Bottoms - Black Jumper (or cardigan) - These are available to purchase from the online store. Please see link below.
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ENRICHMENT

Trips	Compulsory and non-compulsory theatre trips will take place throughout the year, and you will be informed by letter and email.
Guest Speakers	Talks from industry professionals will take place as a part of our careers week in performing arts where students will get the opportunity to hear from a wide range of professionals from theatrical right managers to performers, directors and teachers.
Events	You will take part in a wide range of workshop and theatre performances throughout the year. You will also take part in college wide careers and open events.

SUMMER WORKING TASK INFORMATION

Completion Date: First Lesson Week Commencing 08/09/25

This pack will help you make the best possible start to studying this subject.

The tasks in this pack:

- should take you **about 4-6 hours to complete.**
- should be handed into your teacher when teaching starts **from 8th September 2025** with your name on it for assessment.

If you need help: The tasks are designed to get you prepared for studying at a higher level and to become an effective independent learner. You should try to get as far as you can working on your own but if you do need help, please email us at info@haywardsheath.ac.uk telling us which Getting Ready For pack you are working on and what help you need. Help is available throughout the summer holidays.

SUMMER WORKING TASK	
Skills Focus	Reflective analysis Research Performance
Task 1	Planning for a Career in the Creative and Performing Arts - Skills Audits Please complete the documents attached below rating your current organisational, acting, singing and dance skills. Please try and provide as much information of your knowledge of each skill in the boxes provided.
Task 2	Task 2 – Vocal Techniques (Acting) Please complete the document attached called: (1.1 - Vocal Techniques – Acting). Fill out the document with the how you think each vocal technique applies to the voice for the actor for each of the performance disciplines.
RECOMMENDED READING/WATCH LIST	
Vocal elements - Describing voice - GCSE Drama Revision - WJEC - BBC Bitesize What is Theater Voice? A Guide to Vocal Techniques in Drama Unlock Your Acting Potential: Explore the Techniques of Influential Voice Practitioners - Online Course - Acting Techniques and Vocal Identity: The Power of the Voice (jani dueñas) Domestika	

Task 1

ACTING Skills, techniques, and practices	Level of competence 1– 10 (low) (high)	Explain your current experience and abilities in each area	How will you improve and develop this skill/practice?
Vocal skills			
Pitch			
Pace			
Tone			
Volume			
Emphasis			
Articulation			
Accent			
Physical skills			
Body Language			
Use of Eye Contact			
Facial Expression			
Gestures			
Gait			
Spatial Proxemics			
General Skills			
Learning Lines			
Developing a Character			
Mask Work			
Use of Set and Props			

ORGANISATION Skills, techniques, and practices	Level of competence 1– 10 (low) (high)	Explain your current experience and abilities in each area	How will you improve and develop this skill/practice?
Time Management			
Meeting Deadlines			
Responding to emails			
Updating professional social media			
Self-discipline			
Working with others			

Task 2

Vocal Techniques			
Vocal Qualities	Presenting	Radio Broadcasting	Live Theatre Performance
<p>1. Intonation & Melody</p> <p>Variation in tone and melody is vital. Decide which words and passages deserve extra attention and increase the tone to emphasise these points.</p>			

<p>2. Volume Projecting your voice to ensure everybody in the audience can hear you is essential. To draw the audience's attention to certain parts of a speech, try varying the volume – sometimes louder, sometimes softer – so that selected passages stand out from the rest.</p>			
<p>3. Clarity Don't forget to articulate every word, to ensure clarity on your part and understanding on the part of the audience.</p>			
<p>4. Emphasis Emphasising different words can change the focus of a message by altering meaning and/or implication.</p>			

<p>5. Pauses</p> <p>There are several purposes for which pauses can be used...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to give listeners a chance to absorb something• to generate expectations about something that's going to be said• to give the presenter a moment to focus			
<p>6. Pacing</p> <p>If a speech is delivered too fast, it can hinder understanding and generate anxiety in the audience. If it's delivered too slowly, it can tire and bore people.</p>			
<p>7. Tone</p> <p>Setting the right tone for the speech overall can ensure better understanding and relevance to the audience.</p>			