

ELITE DANCE AND  
TEACHER TRAINING



BTEC L3  
EXTENDED  
DIPLOMA

# PERFORMING ARTS

Delivered by LEAD Education Performing Arts  
Funded by SCL

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LEAD  
Performing  
Arts



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# COURSE OVERVIEW

This BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts Practice (equivalent to 3 A-levels) is a 2-year, full-time education programme based within the beautiful city of Lichfield at the fantastic Elite Academy of Performing Arts purpose built studio.

The BTEC course covers core aspects of industry sectors and prepares students for entry into vocational higher education colleges and universities. This study programme is worth up to 168 UCAS points (DDD\*). Students will undertake 3-days on site each week from 9am-3pm.

LEAD Education Performing Arts staff will be responsible for managing the quality assurance of the BTEC education programme and ensure learners maximise their true potential and achieve the highest grades possible through working closely with the performing arts specialists.

All learners will be entitled to the same privileges as any Further Education learner; for example, student bursaries (if eligible), UCAS guidance, pastoral care, education support, FE enrichment programmes and GCSE re-sit opportunities (if required).

The course has mandatory units & supplementary bolt-ons. Mandatory units are as follows:

- Classical Ballet
- Contemporary & Lyrical Dance
- Tap Dance
- Musical Theatre
- Singing
- Body Conditioning & PBT
- Choreography

There will then be enrichment classes, talks from industry professionals, workshops and theater visits.

As part of this BTEC level 3, learners will be assessed through practical performances, rehearsals, training sessions, controlled assessments and assignments.

The BTEC course is fully funded, however there will be a small contribution of £250 per year, per student, for enrichment provisions towards guest teachers or trips.

There is a possibility for 'bursaries' for people who are eligible.

ELITE DANCE AND TEACHER TRAINING



# ABOUT ELITE

Elite Academy was established in 1999 by Director Donna Wilcox after finishing a professional career in Dance ,TV and choreography. Elite as a studio has gone from strength to strength with past pupils going onto vocational full time training as well as performing professionally around the world. The BTEC was first introduced at Elite over 15 years ago and with also delivering the course at vocational, tertiary and independent schools our staff our more than qualified to deliver this course with the highest professional standards.

Elite is a nurturing environment based in the centre of the beautiful City centre of Lichfield, Staffordshire. The studio has 2 purpose built studios with Harlequin sprung dance floors.

We are also an Acropad centre with full size studio pad.

At Elite and through our Elite Dance and Teacher training courses students will be given the opportunity to study bolt on courses of a Level 3 dance Teacher Assistant Diploma16+ and Level 4 Dance Teacher Diploma from age 18+.These courses are delivered by Donna Wilcox and Michelle Upton who are both Senior Examiners for the International Dance Teachers association.

Our training and courses are preparing you for full time vocational further education courses such as Diplomas and degrees at the top performing Arts Colleges.



Elite Academy of Performing Arts

ELITE DANCE AND TEACHER TRAINING

# YEAR 1



Year 1 sees 'building foundations of knowledge and technique'.

The first year will allow students the opportunity to develop as a young professional within the industry, learning to time manage, whilst also providing copious opportunities for new disciplines to be learnt. Students will also learn vital information about the industry they are soon to head into!

In Year 1, classes may be tiered. This is so more experienced dancers are provided the time to build on new elements of their work, but also so less experienced students have the time spent on them to really hone in on their skills. This tiered approach allows for an organic progression of all students without pressure.

Elite is a nurturing environment and all students will be assessed individually. Strength and Conditioning sheets will be issued and personal growth programmes will be tailor made for each student to become 'your best version of you!'.

Year 1 will end with an assessment and a public performance alongside the many opportunities to gain performance experience and have one-to-one feedback provided throughout the year.





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# YEAR 2



Year 2 places focus on students ability to 'Grow and Prosper'.

This year sees the students develop skills and confidence, preparing for higher education or auditioning for the real world!

The second-year core classes will increase in skill set and broaden so that you are as 'employable' as possible within the many different areas of the Performing Arts industry.

UCAS and audition applications will commence with headshots and portfolios also being arranged.





# STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

As a registered student through Lead education, you will have access to student discounts and offers. We have also arranged with cafes in Lichfield city centre for students to have safe spaces to work with discounts on food and drinks! Lichfield is a thriving city with a range of gorgeous work-spaces, cafes and student hang-outs. It also has some beautiful scenery for walks between lessons and fantastic transport links to surrounding areas. Countless places within the centre also offer part-time work opportunities for students looking to earn some extra money.

There will be copious opportunities to dance at conventions and recitals alongside existing performance aspects of your course. We have outstanding links with industry professionals who will also deliver industry standard workshops. Lichfield and the Staffordshire area is renowned for its arts festivals and theatre productions which we will also be heavily involved with.

## Bolt-Ons

We are in a unique position to be able to add a bolt-on of IDTA Level 3 Teacher Training alongside your BTEC course. This course is also OFQUAL regarded and hold further UCAS credit.

The L3 will be delivered from Year 1 if you wish to take this additional course. If you are under 18 you will need to have completed an 'Intermediate' level IDTA grade. If you do not come from a Theatre Dance background there will also be the following L3 - Dance Teaching Assistant in Freestyle Dance or P1 Diploma in Acrobatic Dance available to you as a bolt-on.

From 18 years+ there is the option to study the L4 Diploma in Dance Teaching. This is a full qualification giving you the status of a fully qualified dance teacher.

These qualifications will open doors for you to teach at your current dance school or at dance studios around the country, offering you opportunities for part-time work while you study.

The bolt-on courses are an additional £10 per week (x30 weeks) There is then an exam fee at the end of the course.





# MEET THE STAFF

Donna  
**Wilcox**

Director



Miss Donna Wilcox BA Hons Dance, Fellow and Examiner IDTA , ARAD and RAD Teaching Diploma , Co chair of the Theatre Dance Awards . Associate Teacher of the Royal Opera House and Royal Ballet Chance to Dance programme.  
Donna danced professionally for over 10 years in UK tours as well as TV and Arena events.  
Donna has also choreographed many pantomimes to Contemporary dance platform events to TV adverts. Donna is also an international teacher and adjudicator.

Michelle  
**Upton**

Teacher



Michelle is a professional Dance teacher, choreographer, IDTA Senior Examiner & adjudicator lecturing and choreographing all over the World.  
Training at M.A.D.D and under the guidance of Frances Clayton she has an extensive career as a dancer on cruise ships and numerous theatre productions and pantomimes.  
Michelle is incredibly passionate about dance, education, choreography, and creativity and strives to inspire, educate, and motivate every dancer she works with.

Amy  
**Wilcock**

Teacher



Amy has trained in all styles of dance since the age of 3, completing all IDTA and RAD grades to a high level and attending numerous intensives and summer schools as a child.  
After training further at Loughborough University, gaining her teaching qualifications, and performing in a range of shows and events, Amy now works as both a dancer and dance teacher, specialising in Jazz, Ballet and Contemporary. Amy has also been invited to judge competitions and deliver workshops all over the country.





# ALUMNI

Joseph  
**Griffiths Brown**



I remember my first day at Elite like it was yesterday. I was terrified to be starting dance as a 12 year old boy with no previous dance training. I turned up and the second I arrived all of the teaching staff and the students made me feel at ease. There was no judgement, just support and encouragement. Elite was never trying to pretend to be something, there was no pretentious energy that often surrounds dance schools. The training always felt like you were getting a personal experience as well. Elite would bring the best out in who YOU are as a dancer, not try and mould you into something you're not. By the time I reached an age where I was thinking of auditioning for further education in Musical Theatre, the worries I used to have about my lack of dance ability didn't hold me back anymore. I went on to gain places everywhere I applied, and I'm now a professional performer in London's West End. People always seem to say "you've got such clean lines when you dance" to me after a show, and I always think to myself "thanks to Elite".

Isabelle  
**Ogden**



Elite Academy will always be a very special place to me. The teachers provided me with excellent training, countless opportunities and memories I'll treasure forever. Throughout the time I spent at Elite I developed the skills, confidence and discipline to further my career and I am now in my final year of training at Laine Theatre Arts. I will always be grateful to everyone at Elite for believing in me and recognising my potential. Everything I've learnt has been carried through into my professional training and I'll always look back at my time there very fondly.

Jessica  
**Talbot**



Throughout my time at Elite, I learnt a range of dance styles in a safe, nurturing environment with kind, encouraging teachers. Elite became my safe place where I met some of my greatest friends and I am always welcomed back with open arms. Donna and Charlotte have provided me with support and are always willing to give advice. Alongside grade work, I was able to compete in competitions building my performance skills and confidence. Also having the opportunity to do a teacher training diploma and gain experience working with the younger students has widened my knowledge and has given me insight into what teaching dance is all about. Jessica has gone on to win the scholarship for exceptional talent at London Studio centre 2022 to present.



# APPLICATION & KEY DATES

## How To Apply:

Please email [elitedanceteachertraining@gmail.com](mailto:elitedanceteachertraining@gmail.com) and we will send you a google form to fill in to register for auditions. We can also arrange a zoom or face to face meeting to answer any questions.

There will be a number of audition dates where you will be taken through a series of workshops and classes. There will also be a talk on the course breakdown and what is expected of you as a student.

## Key Dates

➤ Deadline for application:

August 30th

➤ Audition Dates:

May 1st: 10am - 12pm

June 30th: 10am - 12pm

July 14th: 10am - 12pm

July 28th: 10am - 12pm

August 7th: 10am - 12pm

September 1st: 10am - 12pm

➤ Welcome Talk:

September 4th

➤ Start of Term:

September 11th 2023



ELITE DANCE AND TEACHER TRAINING

# CONTACT



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