



WBS School Contact Us

Our Performing Arts team are always happy to answer your questions.
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William Brookes School PERFORMING ARTS A LEVEL STUDIES





Performing Arts

Welcome to Performing Arts at WBS

If you are a Year 11 student looking to study subjects related to the Performing Arts, then we might be just what you are looking for:

Rated GOOD by Ofsted in November 2017, we are the only post-16 provider in the local area to offer academic A levels in Dance, Music Technology and Theatre Studies. You can study one, two or all three of these performance-based course in combination with a wide range of other academic subjects.

Our resources for the Performing Arts are second to none. We are home to The Edge Theatre, the 240-seat commercial arts venue with live professional performances of comedy, dance, theatre and music. We have a large mirrored and sprung dance studio, rehearsal rooms for dance and drama as well as soundproof music rooms, recording studios and a school radio station.

You will find our expert, inspirational tutors to be truly passionate about their subjects and about your A Level success. They will bring their extensive industry experience and contacts to bear in developing your skills and knowledge and exposing you to outstanding opportunities to learn.

www.williambrookes.com

“We offer outstanding facilities to support your learning and personal development.” Geoff Renwick, Head



THE EDGE THEATRE



DANCE STUDIO



CREATIVE ART ROOMS



MUSIC ROOMS



RECORDING ROOMS



SIXTH FORM CAFÉ



SIXTH FORM COMMON ROOM



SIXTH FORM STUDY ROOM

“Creative industries generated £87.4bn for the UK in 2015 an increase of 34% since 2010, compared to 4.3% for the UK economy as a whole... There are 1.96 million jobs, an increase of 5% in 2016, Creative industries provide 6% of all UK jobs, growing at 4 times the rate of all other UK jobs.”
Data from CDET schools & Colleges





Dance

EXPERIENCE

Watch professional live dance and theatre productions by world renowned companies... Wayne McGregor, Richard Alston, Alvin Ailey, Birmingham Royal Ballet, Frantic Assembly, West End productions and more!

PARTICIPATE

Join in workshops led by highly acclaimed dance companies, such as Akram Khan Dance Company, Panta Rei, Chitraloka, Richard Alston Dance Company and more!

ASPIRE

Look forward to your future by attending careers conferences, workshops and seminars... MOVE IT! at London's ExCel Arena, The Council for Dance Education and Training Careers Conference at Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts.

Students from William Brookes School have gone on to train at top dance colleges worldwide, including Urdang, LIPA, London Studio Centre, Northern School of Contemporary Dance, University of the Arts Barcelona and many have continued to study dance at top universities including Chester University and the University of Chichester. The course focuses on developing skills in performance, composition and appreciation through a wide range of dance styles, including Contemporary, Ballet and Jazz, and is examined through both live performance and written examination

PERFORM

A myriad of performance and competition opportunities are available, including our highly admired Sixth Form Pantomime, Summer Dance extravaganza, Musical production, Live Arts Festival and many more!

www.williambrookes.com

OPPORTUNITIES

Earn some extra cash and develop valuable leadership skills through coaching younger dance students through our Encore Dance Programme, led by our inspirational Artist in Residence, Jordan Spilsbury.

YOUR PRINCIPAL TUTOR

The A Level Dance course at William Brookes School is led by Sarah Longhurst, an industry professional with over 10 years' worldwide performing experience.

YOUR PROVISION

Learn in a state-of-the-art mirrored, sprung floored dance studio. The performing arts facility also boasts a 240-seat theatre, studio performance theatre, lecture theatre and fantastic drama and music facilities.



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After training at London Studio Centre and working on the worldwide dance stage - including with choreographers such as Sandy Borne and Marty Kudelka music promos for The Black Eyes Peas' tour; The E.N.D., films and music videos in Bollywood, dancing on The Voice of India, The Royal Albert Hall and Wembley Stadium - I aim to share my passion and love for Dance and Performing Arts and hope to impart my knowledge and experience to all our students whilst supporting them through their journey within the arts. ”

Sarah Longhurst, WBS A Level Dance Tutor



Music Technology

“ Students enjoy being part of the sixth form. They value their friends and the support that teachers and other adults provide. ”

Ofsted, November 2017

Would you like to learn how to record and produce high quality music? Do you think you would like to learn how to write music using audio and MIDI sequencing software? Are you interested in investigating the impact of music production and understanding the development of popular music?

The A level Music Technology course at William Brook's is one of the most successful in the UK. The department offers students the use of unrivalled resources, including:

- a brand new Mac Suite
- Logic Pro X/Cubase/Protocols sequencing/recording software
- Native Instruments' 'Komplete' which includes industry standard software synths such as Massive, 'Reaktor' and extensive sample libraries
- Spectrasonics instruments
- a well-equipped recording studio used throughout the year for coursework and personal projects.

A level Music Technology at WBS is an ideal course for any student who would enjoy recording, sequencing and composing music as well as analysing the impact that technology has had throughout the history of popular music.

The course is taught by specialist staff supported by visiting experts, who have worked within the music industry as film and TV composers and professional producers. Our team will help you acquire and apply advanced music technology skills through the study of the latest music software and equipment.

We also offer ABRSM Music Theory classes to grade 8 level. Music Technology is an excellent option for students who seek an alternative to A level Music.

www.williambrookes.com





Theatre Studies

ENJOY LEARNING

You will learn a huge variety of performance styles taking in naturalism, comedy, political, experimental and physical theatre and build the strong knowledge needed of practitioners and modern theatre companies. You will develop your acting and/or design skills with passionate staff with industry experience to prepare you for the next step, whatever you dream that to be...

ENJOY CREATING

Be part of a creative and practical environment. Devise your own full-scale theatre piece and learn all the theatrical elements needed to successfully put on a show such as writing, devising, acting, directing, music, lighting, sound and more. Do this within our professional standard performance and rehearsal studios, multi-use studio theatre and 240-seat main theatre with full lighting rig and multi-media capability.

LOVE PERFORMING

Develop and hone your performance skills. Focus on developing into a performer with a variety of skills, roles and styles in your acting or design toolkit. Perform regularly in modern and classic plays as part of our Performing Arts Summer Festival, our full-scale Musical, our Sixth Form Panto, Showcases and more. Also learn to develop successful monologue and audition technique if you want to take it further...

A BUZZ FROM ACHIEVING

Every year, WBS students gain the skills and grades to go on to study acting or performing arts at university level. The A Level gives them the bedrock they need to be strong performers and to be attractive to future courses and employers, the academic writing, examination skills and knowledge to become a great student of theatre and an engaging, confident communicator invaluable in subject pathways outside of the arts.

www.williambrookes.com



“ I joined the school in Yr12 and feel I fitted in straight away... Teaching staff really care about Sixth Form students. ”

Dan, Year 13



Life in WBS Sixth Form

A PERSONAL APPROACH

The atmosphere and style in Sixth Form is different from the main school. You are free to wear what you like within reason, and you have your own dedicated Common Room, Study Room, open-air terrace and privileged access to Simmil's café for lunch and snacks.

One of the great advantages of being in a smaller Sixth Form is that here you are very much a name and not a number; you are an individual and not one of thousands.

“

The teachers are motivating and always willing to help.

This coupled with small class sizes ensured excellent results. I was given the opportunity to teach with the Encore! programme as well as running a lunchtime club.

One of the highlights of the course was a residential trip to London to visit the Move it Exhibition and to go to the theatre to watch a phenomenal contemporary dance company. The WBS annual summer dance show enabled us to get involved with the planning, choreography, costume and music choice. All this has given me the confidence to follow my dreams. I am now studying Musical Theatre and loving it. ”

The staff-student relationship is a caring and supportive one, involving plenty of individual guidance.

At the start of Year 12, you will be assigned a Personal tutor, who will help you manage the transition from GCSE to A Level and offer academic and pastoral support throughout your two years in Sixth Form.

You are encouraged to make the most of the countless valuable enrichment opportunities on offer. From Performing Arts and sport to roles and responsibilities – both voluntary and paid – there are plenty of ways to add to your CV.

You can find out more by downloading a copy of our Sixth Form prospectus at www.williambrookes.com or requesting a printed copy from WBS reception on 01952 728900 or admin@williambrookes.com

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