



**NEW ERA ACADEMY**

Established 1941

# **Specification – Speech and Drama (Performers)**

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**603/0567/8  
Level 4 Diploma in Speech and Drama  
(Performers)**

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**Date: September 2016**

**Updated June 2023**

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<b>Specifications at a Glance</b>				
<b>Qualification Titles</b>	<b>Total # Units</b>	<b>Framework Level</b>	<b>GLH</b>	<b>TQT</b>
603/0567/8 NEA Level 4 Diploma in Speech and Drama (Performers)	1	4	25	200

<b>Assessment</b>	
Form of assessment	All assessment is by external assessment. Candidate should register through their teacher or (qualification discipline) school for assessment which will be carried out by an NEA examiner.
Examination Format	The examination (unit) specifications contain the title, learning outcomes (what has to be learnt) and assessment requirements (evidence on which the candidate is assessed). (See Appendix 1)
Bands of Assessment	There are three bands of attainment, pass, merit or distinction.
Quality Assurance	Quality Assurance ensures that all assessments are carried out to the same standard by external assessment of candidates' work. A team of external examiners is appointed, trained and standardised by NEA and the qualifications conform to the normal quality assurance procedures and processes operated by NEA.

<b>Glossary</b>		
GLH	Guided Learning Hours	Ofqual's Guided Learning Hours, are important because they are linked to the credit that students receive for some qualifications
RQF	Regulated Qualification Framework	The Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) accredits qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. RQF is jointly regulated by England's regulator Ofqual, Wales DCELLS and Northern Ireland's CCEA.
TQT	Total Qualification Time	A term used within qualifications regulated by Ofqual as part of the Regulated Qualification Framework (RQF). It aims to provide users of qualifications with an indication of the minimum length of time it would take the average learner to complete their qualification.
VRQ	Vocationally Recognised Qualifications	These nationally-recognised, vocationally-related qualifications (VRQs) provide the essential knowledge to do a job.

# Speech and Drama: Level 4

## Section A: Qualification Summary

Welcome to the NEA specification for:

### **Speech and Drama at Level 4.**

This specification is designed to give teachers and learners practical information on above qualification run by NEA (New Era Academy).

If you have any general queries about these qualifications or any other NEA qualifications, then please do not hesitate to call us at 0330 133 1885 or email us at [exams@neweraacademy.co.uk](mailto:exams@neweraacademy.co.uk).

## **A1 Aims and Broad Objectives**

The aim of the NEA Level 4 Diploma in Speech and Drama (Performers) is to provide candidates with the opportunity to obtain recognised qualifications in Speech and Drama.

The qualifications also aim to encourage personal self-confidence and group awareness and develop a general appreciation of communication skills in various disciplines.

The purpose of NEA's Level 4 Diploma in Speech and Drama (Performers) is to motivate and encourage candidates of all ages and levels through a system of progressive mastery and to provide a form of training that develops and enhances skills, knowledge and understanding in a safe and consistent way. The qualifications are not only beneficial to those studying speech and drama as a recreational pursuit but could also prepare learners for further learning by helping them to develop their skills enabling them to progress to the next level.

These qualifications are suitable for learners in the 16+ and 18+ age groups.

The broad objectives are:

- To prepare learners with the skills required for confident speech and drama at a high level.
- To give learners opportunities to demonstrate speech and drama skills through a practical examination.

## **A2 Progression**

The NEA Level 4 Diploma in Speech and Drama (Performers) provides a to performance diplomas and into the industry. The NEA Level 4 Diploma in Speech and Drama (Performers) operates according to a well-established methodology of 'progressive mastery' and follows on from a well-established base of skills gained in the Graded Examinations at Levels 1-3.

As the method of assessment is external it is considered to be more rigorous than other types of assessment and for that reason industry is confident that achievement at the highest level gained by candidates of NEA Level 4 Diploma in Speech and Drama (Performers) will have the skills necessary to perform or work in other areas of the business.

## **A3 Qualifications Structure**

A NEA Level 4 Diploma Speech and Drama (Performers) consists of a mixture of pre-prepared and learner-devised elements, all of which are performance-based. They are single unit qualifications in which learners are asked to undertake performance-based assessments as specified in the relevant syllabus.

The unit specifications can be found in Appendix 1 below. For more information on qualification structure and content in a particular discipline please contact us for a copy of the relevant syllabus at 0330 133 1885 or [exams@neweraacademy.co.uk](mailto:exams@neweraacademy.co.uk).

The qualification has 25 Guided Learning Hours (GLH) and a Qualification Time of 200 hours.

## Section B: Assessment Information

### **B1 Assessment Methodology**

The underlying philosophy for assessment is that learners should receive credit for positive achievement, and that all should be encouraged to reach their fullest potential.

All assessment of these qualifications is external and is undertaken by NEA Examiners. Please see [www.neweraacademy.co.uk](http://www.neweraacademy.co.uk) for more detail about how NEA marks and grades its qualifications.

### **B2 Expectations of Knowledge, Skills and Understanding**

Learners are expected to have a sound foundation in the skills required for speech and drama although there is no requirement for them to have gained a formal qualification prior to embarking on the NEA Level 4 Diploma in Speech and drama (Performers).

The qualification assesses Speech and Drama skills to a high level so learners are expected to demonstrate high level performance skills and the ability to devise their own repertoire for certain elements of the examination.

### **B3 Quality Assurance**

The NEA Level 4 Diploma in Speech and Drama (Performers) is assessed entirely through practical performance by examiners who are trained, standardised, and monitored by NEA.



## Section C: Candidate Access and Registration

The qualifications will:

- Be available to everyone who is capable of reaching the required standards.
- Be free from any barriers that restrict access and progression.
- Offer equal opportunities for all wishing to access the qualifications.

There are no pre-requisites for other qualifications to be completed, and no specified prior knowledge, skills or understanding required prior to taking a NEA Level 4 Diploma in Speech and Drama (Performers).

Please email [exams@neweraacademy.co.uk](mailto:exams@neweraacademy.co.uk) for details about registering candidates for NEA examinations.

## Section D: Complaints and Appeals

Please see [www.neweraacademy.co.uk/nea-resources](http://www.neweraacademy.co.uk/nea-resources) for details about how we operate our complaints and appeals procedures.

## Section E: Equal Opportunities Policy

NEA is committed to a comprehensive policy of equal opportunities in the management of its qualifications in which individuals are selected and treated on the basis of their relevant merits and abilities without regard to race, religion, colour, sex, age, national origin, disability or sexual orientation, and are given equal opportunities within the company. The aim of this policy is to ensure that no candidate entering an examination receives less favourable treatment on grounds not relevant to good candidate practice.

Our equal opportunities policy can be found at [www.neweraacademy.co.uk/nea-resources](http://www.neweraacademy.co.uk/nea-resources).

## Section F: Contacts and Support

### New Era Academy (Speech and Drama)

**Registered Office:** Redington Court,  
69 Church Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 2BB

**Postal Address:** 71-75 Shelton Street, Covent Garden,  
London, WC2H 9JQ

**Contact Details:** T: 0330 133 1885  
E: [exams@neweraacademy.co.uk](mailto:exams@neweraacademy.co.uk)  
W: [www.neweraacademy.co.uk](http://www.neweraacademy.co.uk)

# APPENDIX 1:

## OVERVIEW: Unit Specifications by Grade

Unit specifications are divided into learning outcomes and assessment requirements:

- **Learning Outcome** - statement of what has been learnt because of the successful completion of the assessment requirements.
- **Assessment Requirements** - the evidence upon which the candidate is assessed.

Learners are assessed according to the following skillsets demonstrated through their performance of the required elements:

### Technique

- The Technical skills required in the preparation and performance of the selection. This includes vocal technique, stagecraft and teamwork where appropriate.

### Interpretation

- The artistic realisation of the selection presented demonstrating appropriate qualities required for performance. This includes the appreciation of and the thought process in achieving the writer's intention.

### Communication

- To demonstrate the ability to share mentally, vocally and physically in performance and discussion to an appropriate standard.

### Discussion

- To convey the knowledge required for the level and to be able to participate in an exchange of ideas to an appropriate standard.

## Speech and Drama (Performers): Level 4 Diploma

<b>Title:</b>	<b>D/615/2476/ ANEA Speech and Drama Performers</b>
<b>GLH</b>	25
<b>TQT:</b>	200
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b>	
The learner will:	
1. Demonstrate high level techniques for performance.	



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