

Leila Sorensen

BTEC Higher National Diploma in Creative Media Practice

THE GAME ASSEMBLY- LIVERPOOL, NORTHWEST



What made you choose a BTEC Higher National?

After completing my Level 3 in college at Cheshire College South and West I was made aware that I could stay for a further 2 years to complete my level 4/5. I took a gap year and then applied for a similar course at MMU but I ended up dropping out due to not liking how the course was taught to the students, I later came across TGA and applied.

Why was this course the right fit for you?

I find it easier to learn when it is more hands on, I constantly get opportunities to develop my skills and feel like I'm always progressing within my skills. I like how throughout the whole course we are working on group projects alongside our discipline work, it helps prepare me to go into the industry and get comfortable and confident within working alongside others.

How has the HN helped you move toward your career goals?

It has taught me valuable technical skills that will help me get a job. It has also taught me other valuable skills such as teamworking, and professionalism gained through actively working on group projects throughout the whole course.

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My BTEC Higher National qualification has helped me feel more confident of my skillset and opportunities to get into the industry.”

Progression pathway

- Level 3 Creative Media Practice
Cheshire College South + West
- BTEC Higher National Diploma
in Creative Media Practice TGA
- Next steps: a view to moving
straight into employment

Have you used what you've learned in real-life or work situations?

Yes, multiple times. The skills I've learnt and are continuing to learn and develop will be very beneficial to helping me get a job within the industry and build up a strong portfolio. ►

What would you say to someone who's unsure what to do next — maybe they didn't get into uni or are rethinking things?

Take a gap year to research into different options for education and different courses if you're unsure what to do next, don't push yourself to pick a course if you're unsure. If you didn't get into uni, take the time to develop your skills further and reapply, there are always other options and ways to develop your skills if you're passionate enough about the topic, such as online courses or a BTEC Higher National.

What new opportunities has the HN opened up for you?

I feel more confident within my skills set as it's actively being developed which makes me feel more confident when it comes to finding a job.

What's been the best part of your HN experience?

TGA replicates what it feels like to be in the same environment as the real industry, this has made me feel more confident and comfortable when I finish this course and go into the industry as I would already be familiar with the environment.

How has your confidence or mindset changed since starting the course?

It has changed in a positive way, I feel more confident within myself and my progress. I'm constantly surrounded by like-minded people which makes me want to actively improve and push my skills even further.

What are your future plans or career ambitions?

After completing this course, I will be applying for a job in the industry as a Character Artist or an Environment/Prop Artist. We have consistent 1 on 1s with our tutor where we speak about specialisms, this helps as we are made aware of job options we have and how to develop the skills/portfolio needed for them. ■

