

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Music Technology

Pathway 2

Course description:

The New Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Music – “Sound Engineering” was launched in September 2018, and enables students who have completed the Level 2 BTEC Certificate qualification to develop their skills and understanding further within a vocational qualification system.

The course will focus on core skills in “Studio Recording Techniques” and “Digital Audio Workstation Production”, with optional units covering mixing and mastering, live sound and studio design and acoustics. The course prepares students for further education and employment in the Music Industry, with the students able to choose a specialism or area of interest to develop within the course.

Qualifications required:

- In line with the entry requirements for a Pathway 2 subject.
- Grade 5 in GCSE Music
- Merit in BTEC Level 2 Music

Aims of the course:

- To develop skills in audio recording, production, live sound and studio design.
- Teaching of pre and post-production music skills within an industry based setting.
- Develop skills and opportunities vital for success in the music industry.

Future prospects:

- Degree and FE courses in Music Technology, Film Music or Studio work.
- Careers in the music industry, recording industry, theatre and television.

Student feedback:

“It’s a hands on course providing practical experiences in a range of musical activities.”

“Provides a wide range of musical activities and opportunities to progress as a musician and technologist.”

“The course is allowing me to further my knowledge in the areas of music technology I enjoy the most.”

Subject Teachers:

Mr Jeffs

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Features of the course:

The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Music Technology course enables the development of skills in;

- Live sound and mixing techniques
- Skills and techniques in recording and production
- Professional practise in the Music Industry

Working within a smaller, skilled cohort enables increased opportunities for classroom, extra-curricular and industry based experience, including working with local groups and organisations in the presentation, creation and development of events and performance opportunities.

Year 12 and Year 13 Units

The units currently delivered within the course are;

Year 12

Live Sound Techniques
Studio Recording Techniques
Mixing and Mastering Techniques

Year 13

Digital Audio Workstation Production
Studio Design and Acoustics

The qualification is equivalent in size to one A level and provides a focused course of study covering both the music industry and performance, with technical elements engaged in music production unit.

Essentially focused on professional sound techniques, the mandatory units focus on Live Sound Techniques and DAW Production, with optional skills development in techniques that support and develop these areas. Students will work outside of the classroom to develop some of these skills, using industry standard equipment and resources to develop skill appropriate for the professional music environment.

Methods of Assessment:

Assessment coursework tasks are assessed internally and moderated by the examination board.

33% of the course is Externally Assessed by a Standards Verifier, with other units Internally Verified and monitored within the school.