

# KS5 MUSIC

Examination board: Pearson

Qualification: BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance



## Entry Requirements

All prospective students are required to have 5 or more GCSE qualifications including English and Maths at grade 4 or above.

If you have studied GCSE music, you will need to have achieved a grade 4 or above.

If you have not studied GCSE music, you will be required to audition and interview to assess your musical knowledge and ability. You will need to be able to demonstrate proficient musical ability on an instrument of your choice and express an interest in music performance, music production and music business.

You will be required to demonstrate the following skills:

- The ability to work independently and as part of a team in response to assignment briefs.
- A keen interest in the Music Industry.
- A genuine passion for music performance, the theory of music and composition.

## Course

Unit	Mandatory/Optional
1. Practical Music Theory and Harmony	Mandatory
2. Professional Practice in the Music Industry	Mandatory
3. Ensemble Music Performance	Mandatory
6. Solo Performance	Optional

This is a two-year course and equivalent to one A level. Your final grade will be based purely on the coursework submitted and controlled assessments within lesson time. Over the course of the two years, you are expected to complete four units. Three are mandatory (highlighted in orange) and one optional unit. You will also be receiving one weekly free private instrumental lesson.



## Unit Content

### **Mandatory Units**

#### **Unit 1: Practical Music Theory and Harmony (*internally assessed*):**

Unit 1 covers the knowledge of music theory and harmony and how it relates to all forms of music. It is about how the music we make and listen to how it is constructed and how it works. This unit will develop your knowledge and understanding of fundamental musical theory and how it's applied in practical musical activities. You will develop and apply theoretical knowledge in a relevant, useful, practical and meaningful way.

#### **Unit 2: Professional Practice in the Music Industry (*externally assessed*):**

Unit 2 consists of an externally set task in two parts under supervised conditions. Part A is a research task over a one-week period set by Pearson. Part B is a supervised assessment activity of up to three hours over a two-day period, to carry out the written task. You will need to be able to research efficiently and formulate evaluative content through synthesis. You will understand the professional skills that are important in the industry and learn the importance of financial management, effective interpersonal skills and working with others.

#### **Unit 3: Ensemble Music Performance (*externally assessed*):**

Unit 3 is a practical-based, externally assessed task to be completed in an assessment period determined by Pearson. The practical task will require you to choose three songs from a list published by Pearson and work as an ensemble of between three and a maximum of eight performers. You will respond to the choice of repertoire and develop a performance to an audience.

### **Optional Unit**

#### **Unit 6: Solo Performance (*internally assessed*):**

You will explore the preparation, practice and performance of music as a soloist before performing this in front of an audience.

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## What other A-Levels does your course connect with?

- Maths
- Art
- ICT
- Drama
- English
- Business Studies
- Media Studies
- Dance

## University Courses

If you wish to study an aspect of music in higher education, opportunities include:

- BA (Hons) in Performing Arts
- BA (Hons) in Music Industry Management
- BA (Hons) in Music Business and Arts Management
- BA (Hons) in Music Production

## Careers

This subject is vital if you wish to follow career paths in performing, composing, music technology or sound engineering. The transferrable skills developed in this course are highly relevant to a career in the creative industries, but have also been shown to enhance learning in a diverse range of disciplines such as medicine, law, financial services, marketing, and sociology.

*Other career pathways include:*

- Background Singer
- Instrument Technician
- Music Journalist
- Music Teacher
- Music Therapist
- Recording Artist
- Film / TV / Game Composer
- Live Sound Technician
- Music Publisher
- Musical Director
- Radio Producer
- Recording Engineer

**We look forward to teaching you Music at Robert Clack next year.**