

Music (Performance)

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

Equivalent to one A Level



Overview

This course is suitable for all instrumentalists or vocalists who have some proficiency and a passion to develop as a performer. The course broadens experience and skills in ensemble performance and students will be required to perform in public on a regular basis throughout the course. Students will perform a variety of genres covering popular music from the 1950s to the modern day. The course also includes training in listening, critical review and composition.

Confidence in some form of musical literacy skills is essential and we recommend that students are comfortable with Music Theory to ABRSM Grade 3 before embarking on the course. Students who have not achieved Grade 3 Theory will be required to attend extra sessions to support their studies. Students should be creative and willing to be involved with the musical activities of the Department.

What goes well with this course?

This course will combine with almost any other subject. In the past students have also studied:

- Music Technology
- English
- Psychology
- History
- Mathematics
- Performing Arts
- Photography
- Media Studies
- Film Studies
- Business

Progression

This course is for any instrumentalist or singer who wishes to develop their performing skills to a high level, perhaps with a view to a career in the music industry. The qualification is now widely recognised by Higher Education establishments offering degree, diploma and professional training programmes.

Course Content

This course covers:

- Solo performance practice
- Ensemble music performance
- Professional practice in the music industry
- Practical music theory and harmony
- Musical style and context

Students will have the opportunity to develop their key skills in general, as well as sharing their enthusiasm and interests with other specialist musicians.

All Music BTEC students are required to attend either College Band or Choir for the duration of their studies. There are a variety of other music activities to join including Livesound Club, Songwriting, Chamber Ensemble and Classic Album club.

Educational Experiences

Course Specific Trips, Visits & Experiences

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Music (Performing) students have the opportunity to take part in a variety of course related experiences. In the last couple of years, these have included:

- Trips to London concert halls and studios
- A day recording demos at a Miloco Studio
- Playing a gig at the renowned venue 'The Roundhouse'
- A chance to perform in the College's Winter and Spring Concerts and the College's annual Battle of the Bands as well as regular lunchtime recitals
- A chance to perform at the College's annual Leavers' Festival
- The opportunity to take part in Reigate's New Music Fest – both behind the scenes and on the stage

Assessment

The course is assessed via external assessment and coursework: portfolios, journals, audio and video evidence, presentations, accounts and evaluations.

The exam board for this BTEC is Pearson BTEC.

Entry Requirements

All students need to have at least five GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (and a satisfactory school reference) in order to be accepted on an A Level/BTEC Level 3 programme. Acceptance on the course is subject to an audition and interview with the Music staff. This will be an opportunity for students to present some of their performances and learn about how the course will develop their potential. Ideally students should also have passed an ABRSM Grade 3 (instrument) qualification and should also be able to demonstrate an understanding of Music Theory to ABRSM Grade 3 level.

Students will do well on the course if they are:

- Creative
- Confident
- Natural performers – perhaps already in a band
- Fascinated by the workings of the music world in general
- Self-motivated
- Team players
- Keen to develop their instrumental or vocal skills to a high level

Students should be enthusiastic performers, creative improvisers, active listeners, possess good personal organisation skills and have high levels of commitment.