

Pearson Higher Nationals in Music

Qualification Guide

First Teaching from September 2018

First Certification from 2019



Level
BTEC
Higher
National
Certificate

4

Level
BTEC
Higher
National
Diploma

5

Introducing your new Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals in Music

BTEC is the world's most successful and best-loved applied learning brand, engaging students in practical, interpersonal and thinking skills for more than thirty years.

Pearson BTECs are work-related qualifications for students taking their first steps into employment or those already in employment and seeking career development opportunities. Pearson BTECs provide progression into the workplace either directly or via study at university and are also designed to meet employer's needs. Pearson BTEC Higher National qualifications are therefore widely recognised by industry and higher education as the principal technical professional qualification at Levels 4 and 5.

The Pearson BTEC Higher National Certificate (HNC) is at level 4 (the same as the first year of a UK honours degree).

The Pearson BTEC Higher National Diploma (HND) is at level 4 and level 5 (the same as the first two years of a UK honours degree).

A word from our subject expert

It's with great pleasure that I introduce the new Higher National in Music programme. Teaching and working in the creative industries for many years, has given me the opportunity to see first hand the life changing opportunities education can provide, and we have worked very hard to ensure this new qualification offers the content and learning opportunities to offer students the opportunity to further their education and career goals.



The programme is more aligned to UKHE and new updated content will make it both a stimulating and exciting experience for students and teachers. Centres can deliver with confidence a programme that will prepare and equip students for working in the Music Industry

I am here to provide guidance, advice and support on every aspect of the programme and its implementation and will welcome your views and feedback. I will be posting news and updates on the HN Global forum so please get registered and join the online discussions.

I look forward to working with you!

Fiona

Professional courses developed collaboratively with subject experts

With input from industry, employers, professional bodies, tutors, students, and higher education institutions, your new Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals have been designed to better meet the needs of a changing market. The result is a qualification suite designed and developed to meet professional standards, recognised by employers and universities, which develop not only academic skills and abilities, but work-readiness skills.

The objectives of the redevelopment of the BTEC Higher Nationals have been to ensure:

- employer engagement;
- work relatedness;
- opportunities for progression to further higher education;
- alignment with UK higher education expectations;
- qualifications which are up to date with current professional practice and include professional accreditation and opportunities to gain vendor certification where possible.

What's new?

- **Essential subject knowledge** needed by Music students to progress successfully into further study or to the world of work or continued employment;
- **A simplified structure** students undertake a substantial core of learning, building on this in the Higher National Diploma, with specialist and optional units linked to their specialist area of study;
- **Four specialist pathways at level 4** along with one general so there is something to suit each student's preference for study and future progression plans;
- **Seven specialist pathways at level 5** to allow for students to further specialise in preparation for progression plans.
- **Refreshed content** that is closely aligned with professional bodies', employers' and higher education needs for a skilled future workforce;
- **Assessments that consider cognitive skills** (what students know) along with affective and psychomotor skills (what they can do and how they behave);
- **An assessment strategy** that supports progression to Level 6 studies and also allows centres to offer assessment relevant to the local employers, thereby accommodating and enhancing different learning styles;
- **Learning outcomes** mapped against professional body standards where appropriate;
- **Unit-specific grading and Pearson-set assignments**
- **Robust quality assurance measures** that serve to ensure that all stakeholders (e.g. professional bodies, universities, employers, centres and students) can feel confident in the integrity and value of the qualification.

Flexible choice of subject areas and progression opportunities

The new level 4 HNC qualifications in Music offers a choice of one General Music pathway and the choice of four specialist pathways:

- **Performance**
- **Technology**
- **Music Business**
- **Composition**

The new level 5 HND qualification in Music offers a choice of seven specialist pathways:

- **Music Production**
- **Sound Engineering**
- **Sound Design**
- **Session Musician**
- **Artist Development**
- **Composition**
- **Music Business**

Each Higher National unit has a clear purpose: to cater for the increasing need for high quality professional and technical education pathways at levels 4 and 5, providing students with a clear line of sight to employment or progression to a degree at level 6.

The Higher National Certificate (HNC) is a Level 4 qualification made up of 120 credits. It is usually studied full-time over one year, or part-time over two years.

The Higher National Diploma (HND) is a Level 4 and Level 5 qualification made up of 240 credits. It is usually studied full-time over two years, or part-time over four years. BTEC Higher Nationals consist of core units, specialist units and optional units:

- Core units are mandatory
- Specialist units are designed to to the qualification and are aligned to Professional Body standards
- Required combinations of optional units are clearly set out in the tables.

Level 4

Business
1 The Music Industry
2 Marketing and Promotion for Musicians (Pearson-set)
3 Professional Development
4 Music Copyright
5 The Monetisation of Music
6 Music Publishing
7 Live Music Business
plus 1 Level 4 Optional Unit

General
1 The Music Industry
2 Marketing and Promotion for Musicians (Pearson-set)
3 Professional Development
plus 5 Level 4 Optional Units

Core Units
Specialist Units
Optional Units

Performance
1 The Music Industry
2 Marketing and Promotion for Musicians (Pearson-set)
3 Professional Development
21 The Evolution of the Instrument
22 Applied Music Theory
23 Performance
24 Instrumental Technique
plus 1 Level 4 Optional Unit

Composition
1 The Music Industry
2 Marketing and Promotion for Musicians (Pearson-set)
3 Professional Development
26 Compositional Techniques
27 Fundamentals of Composition
28 Composition using Technology
plus 2 Level 4 Optional Unit

Technology
1 The Music Industry
2 Marketing and Promotion for Musicians (Pearson-set)
3 Professional Development
12 Applied Sound Principles
13 Recording Technology
14 Creative Software Techniques
plus 2 Level 4 Optional Unit

Level 4 Optional Units	
4 Music Copyright	18 Music for Sound and Picture
5 The Monetisation of Music	19 Creative Synthesis Techniques
6 Music Publishing	20 Live Sound Techniques
7 Live Music Business	21 The Evolution of the Instrument
8 Music Event Management	22 Applied Music Theory
9 The DJ Business and Culture	23 Performance
10 Music and Society	24 Instrumental Technique
11 The International Music Market	25 Songwriting
12 Applied Sound Principles	26 Compositional Techniques
13 Recording Technology	27 Fundamentals of Composition
14 Creative Software Techniques	28 Composition using Technology
15 Sound Design Fundamentals	29 Media Composition
16 Music Production Fundamentals	30 Arranging and Remixing
17 Sound Engineering Fundamentals	

Flexible choice of subject areas and progression opportunities

Level 5

Business
Level 4 units
1 The Music Industry
2 Marketing and Promotion for Musicians (Pearson-set)
3 Professional Development
4 Music Copyright
5 The Monetisation of Music
6 Music Publishing
7 Live Music Business
plus 1 Optional level 4 Unit
Level 5 units
31 Creative Research Project (Pearson-set)
32 Music and Brands
33 Artist Management
34 Getting the Right Deals
plus 3 Optional level 5 Units

Session Musician
Level 4 units
1 The Music Industry
2 Marketing and Promotion for Musicians (Pearson-set)
3 Professional Development
21 The Evolution of the Instrument
22 Applied Music Theory
23 Performance
24 Instrumental Technique
plus 1 Optional level 4 Unit
Level 5 units
31 Creative Research Project (Pearson-set)
46 Musical Direction in Practice
47 Advanced Performance Skills
48 Live Arrangement Skills
plus 3 Optional level 5 Units

Artist Development
Level 4 units
1 The Music Industry
2 Marketing and Promotion for Musicians (Pearson-set)
3 Professional Development
21 The Evolution of the Instrument
22 Applied Music Theory
23 Performance
24 Instrumental Technique
plus 1 Optional level 4 Unit
Level 5 units
31 Creative Research Project (Pearson-set)
43 Creative Portfolio
46 Developing as an Artist
plus 4 Optional level 5 Units

Composition
Level 4 units
1 The Music Industry
2 Marketing and Promotion for Musicians (Pearson-set)
3 Professional Development
26 Compositional Techniques
27 Fundamentals of Composition
28 Composition using Technology
plus 2 Optional level 4 Units
Level 5 units
31 Creative Research Project (Pearson-set)
43 Creative Portfolio
52 Advanced Composition Techniques
plus 4 Optional level 5 Units

Production
Level 4 units
1 The Music Industry
2 Marketing and Promotion for Musicians (Pearson-set)
3 Professional Development
11 Applied Sound Principles
12 Recording Technology
13 Creative Software Techniques
plus 2 Optional level 4 Units
Level 5 units
31 Creative Research Project (Pearson-set)
37 Advanced Music Production
plus 5 Optional level 5 Units

Sound Engineering
Level 4 units
1 The Music Industry
2 Marketing and Promotion for Musicians (Pearson-set)
3 Professional Development
11 Applied Sound Principles
12 Recording Technology
13 Creative Software Techniques
plus 2 Optional level 4 Unit
Level 5 units
31 Creative Research Project (Pearson-set)
38 Advanced Sound Engineering
plus 5 Optional level 5 Units

Sound Design
Level 4 units
1 The Music Industry
2 Marketing and Promotion for Musicians (Pearson-set)
3 Professional Development
11 Applied Sound Principles
12 Recording Technology
13 Creative Software Techniques
plus 2 Optional level 4 Units
Level 5 units
31 Creative Research Project (Pearson-set)
39 Advanced Sound Design for Interactive Media
plus 5 Optional level 5 Units

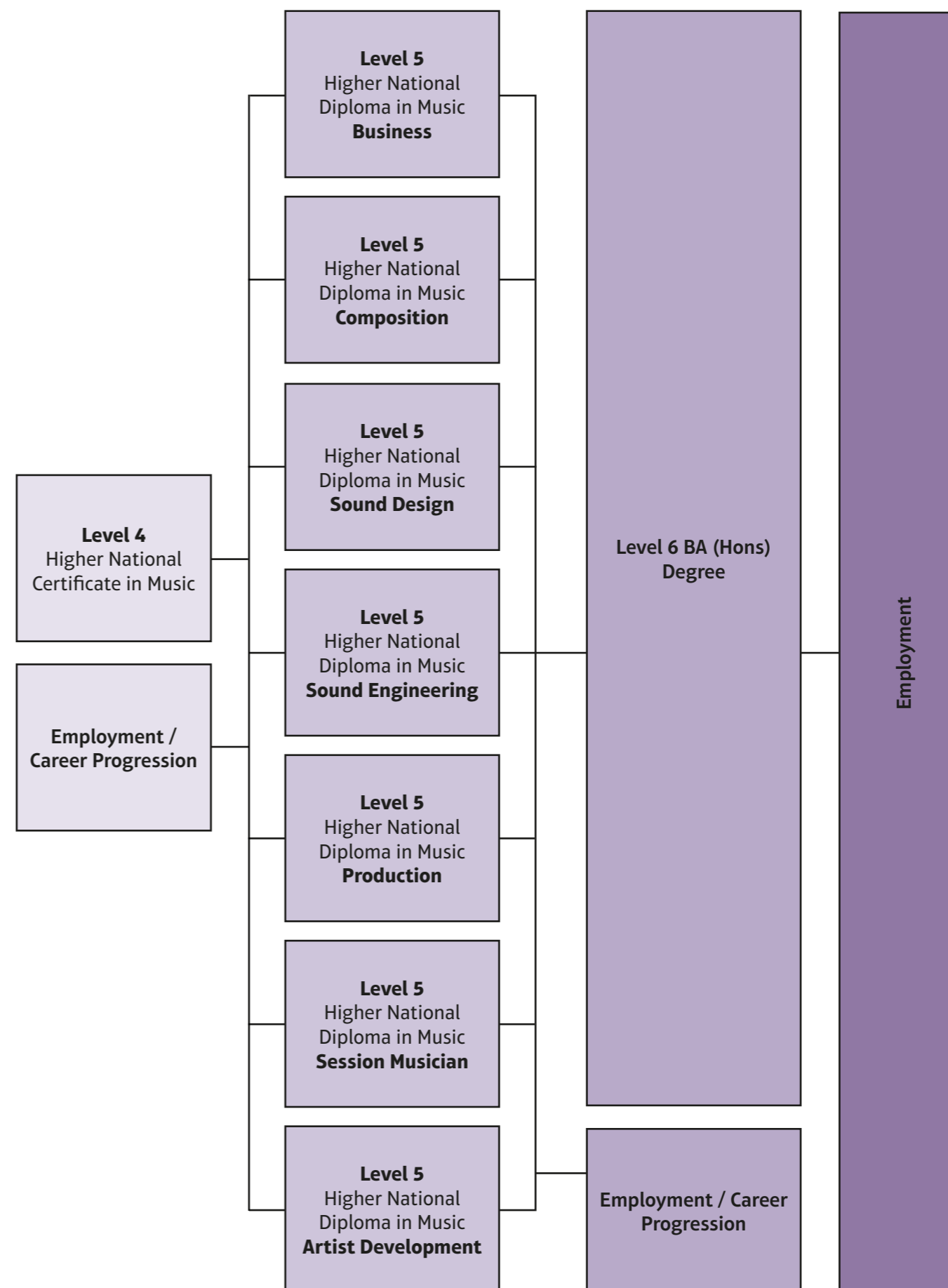
Level 5 Optional Units	
32 Music and Brands	45 Developing as an Artist
33 Artist Management	46 Creative Sound Design
34 Getting the Right Deals	46 Musical Direction in Practice
35 A&R	47 Advanced Performance Skills
36 Advanced Event Management	48 Live Arrangement Skills
37 Advanced Music Production	49 Working in Music Education
38 Advanced Sound Engineering Skills	51 Composing to a Brief
39 Advanced Sound Design for Interactive Media	52 Advanced Composing using Technology
40 Mixing and Mastering	53 Notation and Transcriptions
41 Music Systems Programming	54 Experimental Composition
42 Advanced Synthesis and processing	55 Musicology
43 Creative Portfolio	56 Music Synchronisation
44 Live Mixing	



The purpose of Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals in Music is to develop students as independent, professional, self-reflecting individuals, able to meet the demands of employers in the creative industries and adapt to a constantly changing world. The qualifications aim to widen access to higher education and enhance the career prospects of those who undertake them.

On successful completion of the Level 5 Higher National Diploma, students can develop their careers in the Music sector through:

- Entering employment;
- Continuing existing employment;
- Committing to Continuing Professional Development (CPD);
- Progressing to university.



Assessment Strategy

Pearson BTECs combine a student-centred approach with a flexible, unit-based structure. Students are required to apply their knowledge to a variety of assignments and activities, with a focus on the holistic development of practical, interpersonal and higher level thinking skills. Assessment reflects not only what the student knows but also what he or she can do to succeed in employment and higher education in an ethical manner.

Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals have always allowed for a variety of forms of assessment evidence to be used, provided they are suited to the type of learning outcomes being assessed. For many units, the practical demonstration of skills is necessary and, for others, students will need to carry out their own research and analysis, working independently or as part of a team.

Resources

We are providing a wealth of support to ensure that tutors and students have the best possible experience during their course. We have worked with students and tutors worldwide to create an effective and interactive community for our qualifications, called HN Global, an exciting new online platform created by Pearson to engage with Higher National students and tutors around the world.


Created in parallel with the development of the new BTEC Higher National qualifications, HN Global houses a great number of resources for students to get the most out of their BTEC Higher National experience.

Pearson also offer Study Skills units to all learners – an online toolkit accessed on HN Global that supports the delivery, assessment and quality assurance of BTECs in centres.

www.highernationals.com

Do you need centre approval?

Providers wishing to deliver the new Pearson BTEC Higher National qualifications (Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals in Music - first teaching September 2018) will be subject to a new qualification approval process, more aligned with that used in UK Higher Education. Email hnqa@pearson.com or visit qualifications.pearson.com/higher-nationals for more information about the process.



1. If a provider is already delivering the existing Higher National in Music qualifications do they still need to obtain approval for delivering the new qualification?

Yes, existing providers would still be required to gain approval for delivering the new Higher National qualification but the process will be simplified for centres that meet the auto approval criteria. Approval will then be provisionally granted subject to the return of a signed declaration and payment of the approval fee. More details can be found in the support section of our website <http://qualifications.pearson.com/>

2. How long will the approval process take?

This will depend on whether the provider is eligible for auto approval. Once an existing provider has been notified of eligibility for auto approval, the approval will remain provisional until the provider returns the signed declaration and approval. If an existing provider is ineligible and requires a desk based review, the review cannot begin until the provider confirms its intention to proceed and the approval fee is paid. New providers will go through the standard provider approval process which currently takes about 20 days.

3. Is it possible for students to change their pathway at the end of their first year on the course programme?

Yes it is. Providers will need to advise Pearson registrations team and they will be able to transfer the student's registration to the appropriate pathway.

4. If Pearson are providing Example Assessment Briefs, do providers still have to devise their own assignments and complete internal verification of assignments?

Yes they do. EABs are for guidance and support only and can be customised and amended according to localised needs and requirements. All assignments must still be moderated as per the internal verification process.

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