

## Statement of Purpose

### 500/7870/7 – Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Music Technology (QCF)

The music sector has a value of almost £4 billion in revenue, and employs more than 100,000 people in the UK. The UK is one of only three countries that can lay claim to being a net exporter of music in the world. The sector also contributes significantly to other sectors, including tourism, due to almost 8 million visits by music tourists made annually, and the sector continues to be a driver of growth in the digital technology sector.

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Music Technology (QCF) (180 GLH) is part of a larger suite of Music Technology qualifications, in a range of sizes, which share the common purpose of helping people to become occupationally ready to take up employment in the music and related sectors at the appropriate level. This can follow either directly after achieving the qualification, or via the stepping stone of Higher Education (HE) in university or college. By studying a BTEC National, learners develop knowledge, understanding and skills required by the sector, including essential employability skills, and apply them in real work contexts. Learners can operate at a standard that can reasonably be expected of an 18 year old in full-time education.

**Within this suite, the Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Music Technology (QCF) is a vocational qualification, equivalent in size to an AS level.** The qualification derives its distinctive vocational flavour by offering three distinct pathways, in Events Support, DJ Technology and Production, which reflect the structure of the industry.

The BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Music Technology (QCF) has been designed to be taken alongside one or more substantial qualifications within a 16–19 study programme, which could include other vocational or academic qualifications. The qualification provides learners with an element of sector specialism as part of their wider programme by developing a primary common core of knowledge in the sector through mandatory content. This common core covers the content, such as music production techniques in the Production pathway, that is regarded as most important by employers. It also offers some opportunity for learners to focus their study on the aspects that will be of greatest value to them through a limited choice of optional units. It is therefore particularly appropriate for those with an interest in progressing to a career in a music sector-related field, who want to pursue this via a principally academic route and take it alongside other qualifications, such as A levels in mathematics and physics, or in combination with other larger BTEC Nationals, such as Performing Arts or Creative Media Production. It is also appropriate for those aged 16 who are ready to start an element of level 3 vocational study while completing aspects of their level 2 programme.

The qualification was designed in collaboration with industry, so has the specific support of the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for the sector, Creative and Cultural Skills. The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Music Technology supports entry to a variety of HE courses in this sector and beyond, when taken in conjunction with other qualifications. This is confirmed by the specific support of a range of universities. In addition, the qualification carries UCAS points – see details published on the Pearson website here:

<http://www.edexcel.com/i-am-a/student/results/Pages/BTEC-equivalence.aspx>