

Statement of Purpose

500/7872/0 – Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music Technology (QCF)

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma (360 GLH) in Music Technology is part of a suite of BTEC Nationals in Music Technology, in a range of sizes, which share the common purpose of helping learners to progress to higher education and/or to take up employment in the music industry or in related sectors at the appropriate level. Learners achieving the qualification may continue to further study of music technology, music or a related subject at university. By studying a BTEC National, learners develop the core knowledge, understanding and skills required by the sector, including essential employability skills, and have opportunities to apply their skills in realistic work contexts.

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music Technology is a vocational qualification, equivalent in size to an A level. All the content of this qualification, mandatory and optional, relates directly to the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to progress to higher education courses in the music sector. It covers many aspects of the music sector and related sectors. The qualification includes three distinct vocational pathways - Events Support, DJ Technology, and Production - which reflect the structure of the industry.

Its main purpose is to allow learners to develop the core specialist knowledge, understanding and skills (for example, music production techniques in the Production pathway) required by the sector. It provides a basis for progression to higher education, normally when supported by relevant qualifications at level 3, and GCSE English and mathematics at level 2. Learners wishing to progress into technical music-related careers may include the study of physics and mathematics at level 3. Learners have some opportunity to study in more depth a range of option areas of their choice, including acoustics for musicians, live sound techniques and sequencing systems and techniques in the Production pathway.

This qualification provides a well-established route into a variety of specialist Higher Education (HE) courses in this sector, such as degree programmes in Music Technology, Music Production, Music Management, Digital Music, Audio and Acoustic Engineering and Music with Musical Theatre, when taken alongside other qualifications appropriate for the desired course of study.

UCAS has reviewed the qualification to assess its value for access to higher education, and has allocated UCAS points. See details published on the Pearson website here:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/demo/en/support/support-topics/understanding-our-qualifications/comparing-btec-to-other-qualifications.html/>.

In addition, a number of universities have individually confirmed that this Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music Technology (QCF) fulfils their entry requirements when achieved alongside other qualifications.

As the qualification was designed in close collaboration with industry, it is fully supported by the Sector Skills Council for the music industry, Creative and Cultural Skills. A range of professional organisations/employers in the sector have also confirmed their support for this Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music Technology (QCF). This means it is a highly respected route for those who wish to move into employment in the sector, either directly or following further study.