

## Statement of Purpose

### 500/7718/1 – Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Music (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 in the world which 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 (QCF) (180 GLH) is part of a larger suite of BTEC National in Music 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 sector 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 (QCF) (180 GLH) is primarily an Applied General qualification, equivalent in size to an AS level,** which is designed to be taken alongside one or more substantial qualifications within a 16–19 study programme. 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 pathway-specific core content, such as music performance techniques in the performing pathway and composing music in the composing pathway, is regarded as most important by employers for that particular pathway. It is therefore particularly appropriate for those with an interest in progressing to a career in a music-related field, who want to pursue this via a principally academic route and take it alongside other qualifications, such as A-levels in English Language/Literature, History, and Drama. 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 (QCF) 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>