

Statement of Purpose

500/7844/6 – Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma 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 Subsidiary Diploma in Music (QCF) (360 GLH) is part of a larger suite of BTEC National 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.

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music (QCF) (360 GLH) is primarily an Applied General qualification, equivalent in size to an A level, which has been designed to occupy one third of the curriculum within a broader programme of study, which could include other vocational or academic qualifications. Its main purpose is to allow learners to develop the core specialist knowledge, understanding and skills for either the performing or composing pathway. For example, for the performing pathway, learners will study music performance techniques and either solo music performance skills or how to work and develop a music ensemble, as required by the sector. Alternatively, for the composing pathway, learners are gain a breadth of knowledge, understanding and skills from studying two areas, for example arranging music and composing music, as required by the sector. It provides a basis for progression into a broad range of roles within the sector when supported by relevant qualifications at level 2, such as GCSE English and mathematics, and/or at level 3, such as A-levels in English Language/Literature, Drama, History. Learners have some opportunity to study in more depth a range of option areas of their choice, including:

- classical music in practice
- marketing and promotion
- music theory and harmony.

As the qualification was designed in close collaboration with industry, it is fully supported by the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for the sector, Creative and Cultural Skills. A range of professional organisations/employers in the sector has also confirmed their support for this Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music (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. A significant proportion of recruitment in this sector is at graduate level. The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music (QCF) also provides a well-established route into a variety of specialist Higher Education (HE) courses in this sector, 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://www.edexcel.com/i-am-a/student/results/Pages/BTEC-equivalence.aspx>

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