

Statement of Purpose

600/6682/9 – Pearson BTEC Level 3 90-credit 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 90-credit Diploma in Music (QCF) (540 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.

Within this suite, the Pearson BTEC Level 3 90-credit Diploma (540 GLH) is primarily an Applied General qualification, equivalent in size to one and a half A levels. It has been designed as a one-year course, enabling learners to develop a common core of knowledge, including music performance techniques and the sound and music industry, and allowing them the opportunity to study in more depth a range of option areas of their choice, such as:

- music from around the world
- music theory and harmony
- improvising music
- musical theatre performance.

This Pearson BTEC Level 3 90-credit Diploma could either be for learners starting their final year of education, for example after taking a level 2 qualification post-16 and wishing to follow a coherent one-year course at level 3, or for learners who wish to complete their course after one year and move into an apprenticeship or training with an employer. The qualification supports progression to a wide range of roles within the sector, usually when accompanied by other qualifications achieved at level 2 or level 3, such as AS or A-levels in English Language/Literature, Drama, History, or another BTEC Level 3 90-credit Diploma in Performing Arts.

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 90-credit Diploma. 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 90-credit Diploma in Music (QCF) also provides a well-established route into a variety of specialist Higher Education (HE) courses in this sector and beyond 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 90-credit Diploma in Music fulfils their entry requirements when achieved alongside other qualifications.