

Purpose Statement

Name of regulated qualification	
QAN: 601/7089/X	Title: BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Music (720 GLH)

Overview

The music sector

The music industry helps drive economic growth by creating jobs and opportunities for young people; in 2013, the music industry supported more than 111,000 full time jobs in the UK with exports of £2.2bn. There are many different career paths for those wishing to work within the music sector. These include performance, events management, artist management, media law, copyright, music publishing and music marketing to name but a few, with the opportunity to work both in the UK and internationally.

Who is this qualification for?

The Pearson BTEC National Diploma in Music is intended to be an Applied General qualification for post-16 students wanting to continue their education through applied learning, and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, probably in the music sector. The qualification is equivalent in size to 2 A levels, and it has been designed as part of a two-year programme, normally alongside a further level 3 qualification. Students wishing to take this BTEC will have successfully completed a level 2 programme of learning with GCSEs or vocational qualifications.

What does the qualification cover?

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it supports progression to higher education. In addition, employers and professional bodies have been involved and consulted, in order to confirm that the content is also appropriate and consistent with current practice for students planning to enter employment directly in the music sector.

Everyone taking this qualification will study six mandatory units, covering the following content areas:

- music performance
- music composition
- professional practice in the music industry
- music skills development.

Students choose two option units, which have been designed to support progression to sector-related courses in HE, and to link with relevant occupational areas. They cover content areas such as:

- arranging and composing
- music promotion
- solo performance
- live music events
- music software skills.

What could this qualification lead to?***Will the qualification support progression to further learning, if so, what to?***

The qualification is intended to carry UCAS points and is recognised by HE providers as contributing to admission requirements to many relevant courses.

When studied with other qualifications within the study programme, students can progress to a range of higher education courses, for example:

- BA (Hons) in Music Performance, if taken alongside, for example, a Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts
- BA (Hons) in Music Business or Music and Live Events Management or Commercial Music, if taken with, for example, a Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Business.
- BA (Hons) in Popular Music and Recording, if taken with, for example, an A level in Music Technology.

Students should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes at specific HE providers.

Will the qualification lead to employment, if so, in which job role and at which level?

This qualification is designed primarily to support progression to employment after further study at university. However, it also supports students progressing directly to employment, as the transferable knowledge, understanding and skills will give successful students an advantage when applying for a range of entry level roles, or 'school leaver' industry training programmes and apprenticeships in areas such as music business or live events and promotion.

Accompanying subjects that could support the successful progression into these apprenticeships could be a Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business.

If there are larger and/or smaller versions of this qualification, or it is available at different skills levels, why should the student choose this one?

This **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Music** is the second largest qualification in the suite of BTEC Nationals in Music and is equivalent in size to 2 A levels. It is an ideal qualification to take where music is the student's main interest, and in order to progress to a full degree if taken with another level 3 qualification.

The suite also includes the following qualifications.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music** is equivalent in size to one A Level. It is for students interested in learning about the sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of HE courses, but not necessarily in music.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Music** is equivalent in size to 1.5 A levels and is for students looking for a one-year course of full-time study, or alongside another area of study that contrasts or complements the qualification, over a two-year full-time study programme.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma** in Music typically makes up the full two-year 16–19 study programme, it is equivalent to 3 A levels, and is not taken alongside other qualifications, but allows the student to focus their study on this sector.

For more detail of the other qualifications listed here, and the different progression opportunities they particularly support, please refer to their statements of purpose.

This qualification is supported by the following organisations**Higher education**

University of Huddersfield

University of Chichester

Kingston University

Southampton Solent University

University of the West of England