

Purpose Statement

Name of regulated qualification	
QAN: 601/7090/6	Title: Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music (360 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 in 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 Level 3 National Extended Certificate 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, possibly in the music sector. The qualification is equivalent in size to one A level and aims to provide a coherent introduction to study of the music sector. It is designed to be taken alongside other level 3 qualifications.

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 three mandatory units, covering the following content areas:

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

Students choose one option unit, which has been designed to support choices in progression to music courses in HE and to link with relevant occupational areas. They cover content areas such as:

- arranging and composing
- music promotion
- solo performance.

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

In addition to the music sector-specific content outlined above, the requirements of the qualification will mean the student develops the transferable and higher-order skills that are highly regarded by both HE and employers. For example, performance and communication skills; team working, and personal vocal/instrumental technique development support some of the skills students need to progress into higher education, employment, self-employment or training.

The qualification is intended to carry UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many courses, if taken alongside other qualifications as part of a two-year programme of learning, and it combines well with a large number of subjects. It will support entry to HE courses in a very wide range of disciplines, depending on the subjects taken alongside. However, for students wishing to study an aspect of music in HE, opportunities include:

- BA (Hons) in Performing Arts, if taken alongside A levels in English Literature and a Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Performing Arts
- BA (Hons) in Music Industry Management, if taken alongside a Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Business
- BA (Hons) in Music Business and Arts Management, if taken with a Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business and an A level in Art.

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, when studied with other level 3 qualifications, is designed primarily to support progression to employment after further study at university. However, it can also support students progressing to employment directly, where they have studied a combination of vocational courses to build up their employability skills, such as a sector-specific vocational qualification in creative areas for example.

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?

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 suite also includes the following qualifications.

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 Diploma in Music** is equivalent in size to 2 A levels. It typically makes up two-thirds of a 16-19 study programme, and is taken alongside other qualifications. The additional qualification(s) studied allow students either to give breadth to their study by choosing a contrasting subject, or to give their studies more focus by choosing a complementary subject.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Music** is equivalent to 3 A levels

and typically makes up the full two-year 16–19 study programme, and it 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