

# Quick Guide to the **BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice (2022)**



## REDEVELOPED FOR 2022

For first teaching in September 2022, this qualification has been redeveloped to meet the new DfE technical requirements, particularly regarding the assessment of Tech Awards. The content and structure are very similar to the previous qualification, with only a few changes made to increase clarity and enhance delivery, so teachers of the current specification will find it easy to transition.

**Course level:** Level 1/ Level 2

**Course size:** Total Qualification Time: 140 hours/ Total Guided Learning Hours: 120

**QN:** 603/7055/5

# Content Overview

## Component 1: Exploring Music Products and Styles

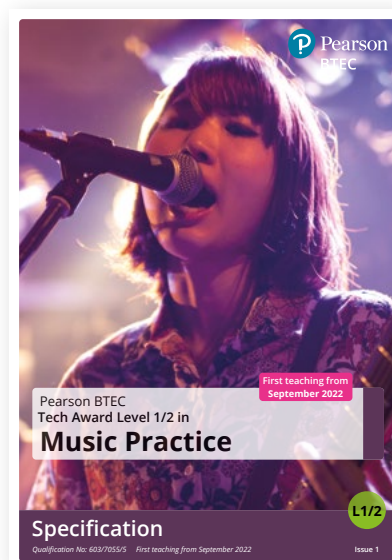
Learners will explore the techniques used in the creation of different musical products and investigate the key features of different musical styles.

## Component 2: Music Skills Development

Learners will have the opportunity to develop two musical disciplines through engagement in practical tasks, while documenting their progress and planning for further improvement.

## Component 3: Responding to a Music Brief

Learners will be given the opportunity to develop and present music in response to a given music brief.



## Why choose a BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice?

This qualification is for learners interested in taking a hands-on course alongside their GCSEs that will offer them an insight into what it is like to work in the Music sector – a vibrant, exciting and competitive industry that offers many different and exciting new work opportunities, whether in composing, performing, or producing music. This course allows learners to explore the sector, and to learn and try out new skills, techniques and styles, allowing them to make an informed decision about their future learning and career.

The course gives learners an opportunity to explore music in a practical setting and to develop understanding of the techniques used to create and realise music. They will explore a variety of musical styles and the musical theory and techniques that underpin them and develop technical and practical skills through workshops and classes. In addition, learners will develop transferable and employability skills such as responding to a brief, self-development, planning, time management and communication.

As a creative subject with a focus on music practice, there is no written exam. All components, including the externally assessed synoptic component, are assessed through engaging, open, and flexible set tasks, designed to give learners as much freedom as possible in how they respond, allowing them to work to their own strengths and interests, and to focus on the area of the music sector that most excites and appeals to them.

This Tech Award complements the learning in GCSE programmes by broadening experience and skills participation in different types of musical techniques for different musical styles. It is a great stepping-stone into further vocational or academic study in the music sector.

100% practical with  
no written exams!

## Assessment Overview

Component	GLH	Qualification Weighting	Marks available	Type of assessment	Length of Assessment	Availability
<b>Component 1: Exploring Music Products and Styles</b>	36	30%	60	Internal assessment (PSA*) with 2 tasks. Externally moderated	12 hours of supervised sessions	Twice a year: October release for December/January moderation (from 2023) February release for May/June moderation (from 2023)
<b>Component 2: Music Skills Development</b>	36	30%	60	Internal assessment (PSA*) with 1 task. Externally moderated	15 hours of supervised sessions	Twice a year: October release for December/January moderation (from 2023) February release for May/June moderation (from 2023)
<b>Component 3: Responding to a Music Brief</b>	48	40%	60	External synoptic task. Externally marked	23 hours of supervised sessions	January release for assessment in May/June (from 2024)

\* Pearson Set Assignments (PSAs) are set by Pearson, marked by the centre, and moderated by Pearson.

*The components are interrelated and best seen as part of an integrated whole rather than as distinct study areas.*

## Complimentary resources and support

- Delivery Guide
- Transition Guide including mapping from previous qualifications
- Sample assessment materials
- Marking Training and Marking Standardisation Events
- Getting Started Training Events
- Access to Pearson subject specialist

# Choosing a **BTEC Tech Award**

Tech Awards are Level 1/Level 2 courses that are of the **same size and rigour as GCSEs**, **widening learners' options at Key Stage 4**, while keeping all their options open for progression into post-16 education and training. We have developed all our Tech Awards **in consultation with subject specialists and secondary school and FE representatives**, to ensure that they are **engaging** and **fully up to date** with current sector skills, behaviours and knowledge.

## **With a Tech Award your learners will:**

- Get a taste of what a sector is like.
- Gain transferable skills and confidence that will help them in the world today and prepare them for their futures.
- Receive an introduction to vocational study.
- Have opportunities to apply learning from their GCSE subjects to every day and work contexts.
- Build applied knowledge and skills that show an aptitude for further learning, both in the sector and more widely.

BTEC Tech Awards come from Pearson, the world's leading learning company. Our mission is to help everyone achieve their potential through learning. We do that by providing high quality content and learning experiences, as well as assessments and qualifications that help people build their skills and grow with the world around them.

## **Embedding learning through application**

Our Tech Award qualifications are designed to help learners:

- **Explore** what it's like to work in the sector and gain the underpinning knowledge and skills required to work in it.
- **Develop** key knowledge, skills and behaviours, and learn about essential tools, techniques, and equipment.
- **Apply** their learning to real-life contexts and vocational scenarios in both learning and assessment.

## Designed to **make life easier**

Through the design of all of our qualifications we've sought to ensure that the courses are as easy as possible for teachers to deliver and administer, and that they give learners as much opportunity as possible to realistically demonstrate their capability and achieve overall success.

- ✓ We offer the widest range of Tech Awards, covering 13 unique subject areas, all following the same consistent approach – enabling your school to offer multiple Tech Awards without multiplying complexity.
- ✓ All components are mandatory, with optionality built in within the content where relevant to the sector, streamlining assessment.
- ✓ There is a consistent mark scheme structure for each internally assessed component making it easier to apply and standardise.
- ✓ Assessment is compensatory within components and across the qualification - anywhere learners gain marks, these are added to the total towards a grade. This means grades for each component are no longer restricted to the lowest grade achieved within the component.
- ✓ There are no minimum grade requirements in any component, so an Unclassified result in any of the components will not prevent a learner from achieving the qualification. This gives your learners more opportunities to achieve and better captures their true ability.
- ✓ The moderation process for the new Pearson Set Assignments (internal assessments) will create a significant reduction in administration and paperwork – and includes direct feedback so that you have the opportunity to address any issues with assessment before they impact on the learner's results.
- ✓ The new Pearson Set Assignments have been based on Authorised Assignment Briefs from current qualifications, so will be familiar to teachers used to the previous qualifications.