

Popular Music

General Information

This course is strongly rooted in the music industry. You are assessed on a practical skill:

Guitar, Bass, Piano, Drums or Vocals.

There is a study of influential artists across a range of genres and styles.

There is also study of how the music industry works.

Entry Requirements

- GCSE/BTEC level 2 Music is an advantage.
- There will be a practical audition during Bridging Week.
- You should also meet the general College entry requirements for Advanced level study. Please refer to the current Prospectus - advanced programmes, entry requirements.
- Entry requirements might be changed in light of curriculum reform.

Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma

(Exam board – Pearson)

BTEC National Level 3 Music (2010)



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Course Content

- Music techniques (U23)
- Popular music in practice (U30)
- Musical ensembles (U40)
- Session musician styles (U22)
- Improvisation (U12)
- Live music workshop (U15)

The first year of the course builds skills and repertoire with the study of artists from across all the musical genres:

Jazz, Blues, Rock, Soul, Funk, Country, Hip Hop, Reggae, Indie.

The second year of the course introduces more creative challenges with composition & improvisation based projects.

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How it is taught

- Specialist music staff introduce musical styles and theoretical skills.
- Class work involves you following a rehearsal schedule, trying new techniques in ensembles & building a strong musical repertoire.
- Practical work is captured on video and broadcast on a qesfc youtube channel.
- You are expected to keep a detailed notebook which documents your musical research, understanding of theory and how the music industry works.

Useful / common subject combinations

Music, Film, Media.

Careers / HE information

The course would be very useful if you want to work as a professional musician. The majority of our students go on to study at University.

The college has close links with music industry endorsed colleges and several of our ex-students work professionally in the music industry.

QE