

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance.

Music – Summer Independent Learning: Y12 - Y13 for 2025

**Compulsory Content:**

**1. Unit 1: Practical Music Theory and Harmony**

**Task 1**

Revisit all your Unit 1A theory work we have covered this year and revise it by making sure you have explained what each topic is, with examples and explanations, before discussing its importance in its use for music.

**Task 2**

**Composition** - Play the following chord sequences and analyse which notes are in each chord:

**C G Am Em F C F G**

**Em D Bm C Em D Bm C**

Compose a short melody for an instrument or song which uses one of these chord sequences.

Remember you can repeat the chord sequence as many times as you wish.

Think about the characteristics of a good melody – not too wide a range – repeating elements –

use of melodic sequences – stepwise movement with no really big leaps.

Be prepared to perform your melody with an accompaniment when we return to college. You may use a backing track or accompany yourself.

Above all, be creative and imaginative.

## **2. Unit 3: Ensemble Music Performance**

### **Task 3**

What makes a successful ensemble? We will consider this as part of your final unit when college returns in September, but you need to be prepared to discuss each of the following points and have notes to refer to.

**A1** Personal ensemble management skills • Attendance and punctuality. • Personal organisation of instruments, equipment and music. • Awareness of health and safety issues. • Learning material. • Personal practice between rehearsals. • Encouragement and positive feedback. • Rehearsal etiquette.

**A2** Ensemble performance skills • Listening to others. • Accuracy of rhythm and pitch. • Playing in time. • Playing in tune. • Adjusting to other members of the ensemble. • Following direction. • Balancing own part in the ensemble. • Awareness of own part in the ensemble. • Reading music.

**A3** Teamwork and collaboration • Giving and taking instruction and direction. • Trust and cooperation. • Contributing ideas and problem solving. • Receptiveness and responsiveness to the ideas of others. • The impact of unprofessional behaviour

To show your research and understanding, **research and prepare an eight-slide presentation** on 'What makes a successful ensemble?'

- Consider researching a performance of your favourite band or artist and how well they work as an ensemble.
- Find two different performances of the same piece of music (by different bands or musicians/in different styles). Study the two performances and identify the differences between the two ensemble performances but be as detailed and analytical as you can. Prepare a PowerPoint presentation, including musical links to the two performances, which highlights the differences in the ensemble performances.