

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance.

Music – Summer Independent Learning: Y12 - Y13 for 2026

Compulsory Content:

1. Unit 1: Practical Music Theory and Harmony

Task 1

Revisit all the theory work we have covered since September and revise it by making revision notes, spider diagrams, flash cards etc. There will be retrieval/recall exercises on all this work in September and it will be required for the completion of Unit 1 BC&D.

Task 2 – Linked to Unit 1B&C

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 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 1

Research and prepare a presentation *on* 'What makes a successful ensemble?'

Below are some ideas to help with your research. We will consider all these ideas when college begins 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

Strongly Recommended Content:

Task 1 – Linked to Unit 3

Listen around and 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 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 performances. You may wish to complete this work after first completing Task 1 above.