

World class thinking. World class achieving.



# St Mary's College

## MUSIC

**BTEC National Level 3 Extended Certificate in Music Performance**  
Pre-course reading and guidance





# Music

## WHY SHOULD I CHOOSE MUSIC?

- › **Music** is an exciting course that is suitable for all types of musicians and learners. It is a varied course that develops skills in several areas and follows on effectively from both GCSE Music and BTEC Music (level 2). We have a history of students progressing to study music at conservatoires and universities after completing this course.

## WHAT IS THE COURSE STRUCTURE LIKE?

- › The course is a **two year** course. It consists of **four units**, **three** of which are mandatory, with the final one chosen from a list of **options**. Two units are **externally** assessed and two units are **internally** assessed.



# Course Overview

Over the course of Years 12 and 13 you will complete the **Extended Certificate**

## Key

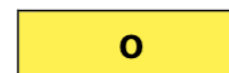


Unit assessed externally



**M**

Mandatory units



**O**

Optional units

Unit (number and title)	Unit size (GLH)	Certificate (180 GLH)	Extended Certificate (360 GLH)
1 Practical Music Theory and Harmony	90		<b>M</b>
2 Professional Practice in the Music Industry	90		<b>M</b>
3 Ensemble Music Performance	120	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>
4 Composing Music	60	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>
5 Music Performance Session Styles	60	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>
6 Solo Performance	60	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>
7 Improvising Music	60	<b>O</b>	<b>O</b>



# Unit Overviews

A breakdown of the content of each unit can be found in the course specification. Please follow the link and go to the relevant pages:

[https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Nationals/Music/2017/Specification/9781446928110\\_BTEC\\_Nat\\_ExtCert\\_Music\\_Spec\\_prepubfinal.pdf](https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Nationals/Music/2017/Specification/9781446928110_BTEC_Nat_ExtCert_Music_Spec_prepubfinal.pdf)

<b>Unit 1</b> – Practical Music Theory and Harmony	<b>p17</b>
<b>Unit 2</b> - Professional Practice in the Music Industry	<b>p27</b>
<b>Unit 3</b> – Ensemble Music Performance	<b>p35</b>
<b>Units 4, 5, 6 and 7</b> – Optional Units	<b>p45 onwards</b>



# Essential Preparation

Irrespective of whether you have completed a Music qualification or not during your time in KS4, there are key skills and knowledge that you need to have to ensure a smooth transition to Music in Year 12.

On the following slides there is a non-exhaustive breakdown of some of the key things you should know and be able to do. If you have any concerns, are unsure or need further guidance about any aspect of this then please get in touch.



# Performance



It is essential that you keep up your **practice** on your instrument.

**Performance** is a mandatory part of the course and so you must ensure that your skills are kept sharp over the coming months.

If you currently do not have a teacher and are unsure what exercises and repertoire you should be practising then please get in touch.

## Instrumental Tuition

If you would like to have instrumental tuition when you start in Year 12 then please get in touch and let us know. Sessions are arranged to run alongside your academic lessons and are usually taught in free periods, at lunchtime or before/after school.



# Theory



**Music Theory, Notation** and **Harmony** are also mandatory content on this course. As a starting point, you should be familiar with:

- › Treble and bass clef notation
- › Key signatures
- › Time signatures
- › Major and minor scale construction
- › Forming chords

## Online Support

[www.musictheory.net](http://www.musictheory.net) is a fantastic online resource that helps with understanding a whole range of theory content and is a good place to start if you are unsure on any of the above.



## Any further questions?

Please get in touch if you have any questions or queries:

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