

Music Technology

A level

What will I study and learn?

Music Technology is a largely practical course with independent learning and the development of skills as its core activities. You will also benefit from a high level of challenge and academic rigour with plenty of room for creativity and choice. The course is geared towards relevant, practical applications in the industry and in everyday life.

What skills should I have and what will be developed?

Due to its fast growing and competitive nature, it has become essential for anyone aspiring to join the music industry in a creative capacity to be able to record and produce their own music to a professional standard. This course offers the opportunity to learn to do just that, while also developing wider skills including analysis, critical thinking and project management.

Although there is no performing assessment, keeping up your instrumental and vocal skills will be useful for the recording element of the course. Keyboard skills are also highly beneficial when it comes to production and sequencing.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed in four areas:

Recording (20%)

Capture, edit, process and mix an audio recording. A choice of ten assessment songs will be released by Edexcel in June.

Technology-based Composition (20%)

Create, edit, manipulate and structure sounds to produce your own original track. Choose your final piece from a choice of three briefs set by Edexcel in the Upper Sixth.

Listening and Analysing (25%)

Develop knowledge and understanding of recording and production techniques and principles through the study of commercial recordings of jazz and pop since 1910 (one hour thirty minute exam).

Producing and Analysing (35%)

This assessment will combine practical tasks and written responses (two hours fifteen minutes). You will be provided with a set of midi and audio files that you will correct and combine into a final mix, justifying your decisions with written responses.

Entry requirements

The main entry requirement for the course is a genuine interest in the subject and it is advantageous (though not essential) to have some experience of music technology activities. You will usually need to have at least a grade 5 in Mathematics or a Science as well as at least a grade 5 in one or more creative subject(s) such as Music or Art. Although there is no performing assessment, keeping up your instrumental and vocal skills will be useful for the recording element of the course. Keyboard and music theory skills are highly beneficial for all courses, and support will be offered to those who are less experienced in these areas.

Want to know more?

Mrs Elizabeth Rees
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Exam Board:
www.qualifications.pearson.com
(Edexcel)



“We're incredibly lucky to have such great facilities at BGS, such as the 1532 Performing Arts Centre, where we have a recording studio. Music Technology is so hands-on and we're always in the studio, which means you never get bored.

Rita Shterenlikht, OB 2020

Courses: French, Spanish, Music Technology and Psychology



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