



## Wath Sixth Form Subject Preparation Pack

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# MUSIC

### World-class learning

World-class learning every lesson, every day

### The highest expectations

Everyone can be successful; always expect the highest standards

### No excuses

Create solutions not excuses; make positive thinking a habit

### Growth mindset

Believe you can improve; work hard and value feedback

### Never give up

Resilience is essential; be relentless in the pursuit of excellence

### Everyone is valued

Diversity is celebrated; see the best in everyone

### Integrity

Be trustworthy and honest; deliver on promises and walk the talk

# **RSL Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma for Music Practitioners Transition Pack**

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## **What is Music?**

This is a course for those who wish to develop their skills in Music through studying;

- Rehearsal skills & Live performance
- Planning and Evaluating rehearsals & performances
- The Music Industry & Careers in music

You will also have the choice to develop skills in:

- Auditioning for music roles
- Music Theory
- Listening & Analysing Music
- Music Technology
- Music Promotion
- & many more specific units tailored to your interests

The course is approached very practically and gives you lots of performance opportunities, you will also complete research, plan and evaluate your work through either written work or audio/visual recordings or diaries/blogs.

## **Why should I study Music?**

If you enjoy music and playing an instrument or singing, this is an ideal option for you to develop your skills and interests in Music alongside the opportunity to work with other people.

Music also develops many practical and mental skills such as:

- Decision Making
- Self Discipline
- Teamwork
- Taking Responsibility
- Awareness and sensitivity to others
- Creativity & Inventiveness
- The ability to use your own initiative

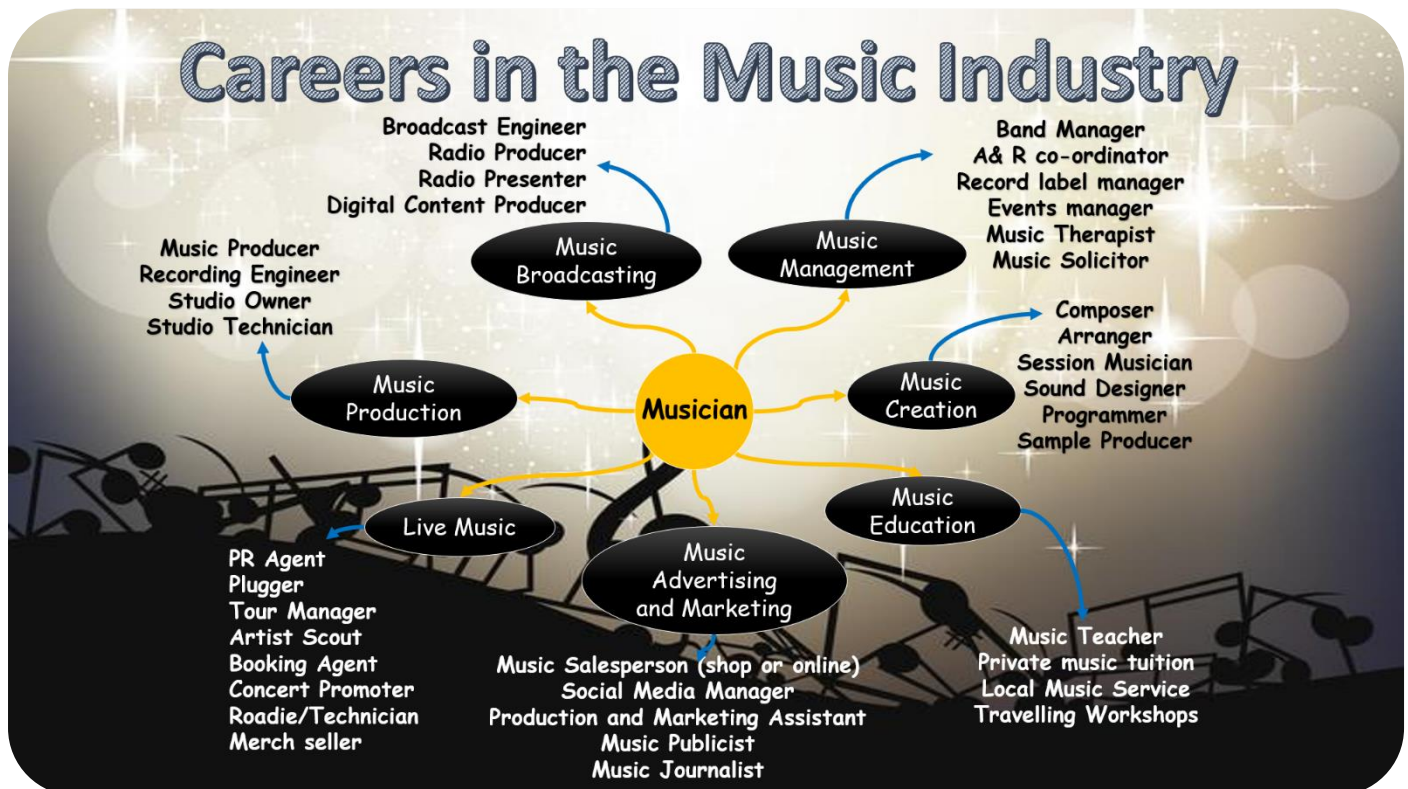
Music has been scientifically proven to:

- Increase your attention span and memory
- Increase your brain capacity
- Develop your language ability
- Develop your confidence.

All of these are useful transferable skills which will support you in any pathway you choose in life.

## What careers could Music lead to?

A career in music is more than just being a musician, the music industry is a wide career path which encompasses lots of roles in different sectors, see how your career could flourish in one or more of these roles:



In addition, due to the development of transferable skills mentioned above, many students can go onto a wider range of careers such as:

- Marketing
- Retail
- Social Work
- Media & Journalism
- Teaching
- Acting & Stage Performance

## What will I study?

At Wath Academy we study the RSL Music Practitioner syllabus which is covered through two core units and at least three optional units adding up to a total of **90 credits**. One of these units is assessed by the exam board and the rest are assessed by your teachers. All units are detailed on the next page.

As well as the optional units, it is possible to select alternative units which are tailored to your interests.

## How will I be assessed?

The core unit 'Careers in Music' and the optional units will be assessed during the course at various points. You will be given written feedback once before then submitting for final assessment, which will be sent off to exam board moderators. Each unit submission is unique, you may choose to submit written work, recorded audio, presentations, videos, blogs or vlogs. The external unit 'Rehearsal skills and Live music performance' will be assessed solely by the exam board and consists of written work and a live video performance.

All units develop distinctive skills for the music industry, crossing over and aligning to foster a well rounded musical experience.

## Units of Study

### **Core Unit: Planning for a Career in Music**

**Non-exam assessment: Internally assessed, externally moderated. (15 credits)**

You will undertake activities relating to your overarching career aims in music.

*You will produce:*

- *A personal knowledge and skills analysis on current, specialist knowledge & skills, employability & study skills.*
- *A learning and skills development plan to follow your chosen career path*
- *An evaluation of your potential progress into two music roles*
- *An analysis of your progress and learning throughout the unit and an aspirational career action plan*

**This unit will run throughout the course and be completed by the end of Year 13.**

### **Core Unit: Rehearsal Skills & Live Music**

#### **Performance**

**Examined Planned Performance: Externally assessed. (30 Credits)**

You will participate in the planning, rehearsal and performance of a set lasting between 15-20 minutes based on a brief from the exam board:

You must perform the set live in front of an audience and the performance will be filmed.

*You will produce:*

- *A Rehearsal aims document and a plan for your rehearsals.*
- *A record of your rehearsals throughout the process*
- *A final performance and evaluation of the process*

**This unit will be completed between December 2023 & April 2024**

### **Optional Unit: Improving Instrumental Performance**

**Non-exam assessment: Internally assessed, externally moderated. (15 credits)**

You will maximise your development as an instrumentalist or singer.

*You will produce:*

- *A personal instrument critique*
- *An analysis of your own skills and a plan of action to improve them*
- *An evidence log of your rehearsal process throughout the year*
- *An evaluation of your progress and learning throughout the unit and an action plan for future development*

**This unit will run throughout Y12 and be completed in the final term.**

### **Optional Unit: Practical Musicianship**

**Non-exam assessment: Internally assessed, externally moderated. (15 credits)**

You will learn to listen, internalise and reproduce musical elements and ideas & to communicate them to others.

*You will produce:*

- *A recreation of a chosen piece of music.*
- *A reflection of your learning.*
- *A masterclass of musical elements and ideas*
- *An evaluation of your progress and learning throughout the unit and an action plan for future development*

**This unit will run during Y12 and be completed in the final term.**

### **Optional Unit: Auditioning for Music**

**Non-exam assessment: Internally assessed, externally moderated. (15 credits)**

You will develop skills to participate effectively in an audition.

*You will produce:*

- *An analysis of personal goals in relation to audition techniques*
- *A profile of an audition for a specific role*
- *A video of your audition*
- *An evaluation of your progress and learning throughout the unit and an action plan for future development*

**This unit will run during Y12 and be completed in the final term.**

## Meet the staff.

In Music we have three full time members of staff along with a number of peripatetic music teachers.

### Mr Stanley – Director of Performing Arts & Teacher of Music



Mr Stanley is the Director of Performing Arts at Wath Academy. He is passionate about all the Performing Arts departments at Wath and is completely driven to ensure that every student gets the best possible experience available to them. He is determined that Wath is a national beacon of excellence for Performing Arts. He has worked within the music industry as a session musician, live sound engineer and freelance recording engineer/producer and has had experience of working with the BBC and various international Artists, Bands and Musicians. Mr Stanley's specialism is music, he is an accomplished guitarist and also plays bass, keyboard and drums. He has been teaching music for over 15 years and last year received bronze in the prestigious award of BTEC International Teacher of The Year for his

contributions to the teaching profession.

### Mrs Hole – Head of Music



Mrs Hole has been a Music teacher at Wath Academy for 30 years and she is still as passionate about developing musicians as she was on very first day! Her own musical journey started at the age of 4 when she began playing the recorder, this led to an avid interest in music and she progressed to playing the Cornet. Mrs Hole has played in concerts and competitions around the UK and Europe in some magnificent settings like the Royal Albert Hall, Symphony Hall, St David's Hall alongside world class conductors and performers and even for the Royal family! As well as a passion for developing her Brass playing, she also studied Piano, Flute, Voice and Theory completing ABRSM exams in these with further study at a Conservatoire for Music. This world class education broadened her classical musical knowledge, composition skills, recording for TV and Radio, performance opportunities- orchestral, jazz, brass ensemble, solo work as well as tours abroad performing in European competitions. Through her teaching and extra-curricular activities Mrs Hole has sought to provide a diverse range of experiences for students and many have gone on to study Music at university and even at the RWCMD!

### Mr Morley – Teacher of Music



Mr Morley has been passionate about music since the age of 13, performing in bands at school and in pubs and clubs in addition to composing his own music. This has continued to this day, performing at weddings and functions as well as writing music in different styles. With experience on his preferred instruments, guitar, bass, drums and vocals as well as a degree in Popular Music Production, Mr Morley's main interests lie within music technology and modern popular music. He believes that today the possibilities for learning, creating and performing music are endless, which is incredibly exciting! In addition to teaching at Wath Academy since 2016, Mr Morley is also in an acoustic covers band and runs his own Education YouTube channel "Mr Morley Music Education" which is utilised by teachers and students all over the world.



## Recommended resources

It is recommended that you are working towards graded performance exams or an equivalent, although this is not essential, it will help you choose goals to align to when working on the units

The exam boards below have books that cover aural, skills and questions for a variety of instruments.

Choose the instrument and syllabus most suitable to your current ability

[ABRSM Exam syllabus](#): Traditional Performance and Music Theory

[Rock school Exam Syllabus](#): Contemporary Performance and Music Theory



## **Additional support:**

Should you wish to develop your skills further, these are some resources you could access in your spare time.

**Traditional Groves Dictionary of Music** – Practicing exam pieces, extending proficiency & developing performance techniques

**The AB Guide to Music Theory** – Essential Music Theory books

<https://www.musictheory.net> – Online Music Theory help

<https://strongsongspodcast.com> – Audio essays on well known pieces of music

<https://www.youtube.com/c/RickBeato/featured> – Video essays, lessons and vlogs on Music

<https://www.youtube.com/c/AdamNeely> – Producer, Composer, Audio Engineer & Music Theorist

<https://www.youtube.com/c/MrDMorley> – Mr Morley's Music Education Channel



We recommend that you watch as many performances as possible and start to develop your own unique style of performance and interests in genres/styles of music. This will be useful when evaluating your own performance in comparison to a professional. There's a whole range of live performances that can be seen for free on YouTube, broaden your horizons and listen to music you're not familiar with.

## The transition from Level 2 to Level 3 tasks

**Aim:** The aim of these tasks is to help you understand your own musical experiences and develop a firm plan for your aspirations in music. This will help you grasp the concept of planning and evaluating your own musical development and start to understand roles within the Music Industry.

### Your Experiences

In the box below, explain the music experiences you have had so far in your life. This can include your performances, knowledge of music and theory, experiences seeing live performances, family experiences etc...

In the box below, explain your musical aspirations. This can include career aspirations, performances you'd like to do, skills you'd like to have or develop musically, physically and mentally etc...

### Key terminology

If you are unfamiliar with musical technical vocabulary, it would be useful to research the meanings of these key terms, these are just a selection of words you may need to be aware of and use throughout the course.

Some of these terms may have other meanings, you are of course looking for the musical meaning.

Key terminology	
Intonation	
Rhythm	
Expression	
Dynamics	
Range	
Improvisation	

Vibrato	
Accompaniment	
Repertoire	
Projection	
Dexterity	
Stamina	
Chords	
Bass notes	
Melody	
Tempo	
Genre/ Style	
Tone quality	
Bar chords (guitar)	
Chord Sequence	
Interval	
Root note	
Octave	
Simple & Compound Time Signatures	
Tab (guitar)	
Structure	
Arpeggio	
Staccato	
Legato	
Harmony	
Chromatic	
Resolution	
Syncopation	
Scale	
Fills (drums)	



## Careers in Music

Research the careers below and provide a brief description of the role.

Careers in Music	
Performance	
Musical Director	
Conductor	
Musician	
Broadcasting	
Broadcast Engineer	
Radio Producer	
Digital Content Producer	
Management	
Music Therapist	
A&R Representative	
Record Label Manager	
Creation	
Composer	
Arranger	
Sound Designer	
Production	
Music Producer	
Recording Engineer	
Studio Technician	
Live Music	
PR Agent	
Promoter	
Sound Engineer	
Advertising & Marketing	
Publicist	
Publisher	
Social Media Manager	
Education	
Peripatetic Teacher	
Local Music Service	
Travelling Workshop	