

Subject	Music BTEC (BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance)
Context	<p>When you start this course in September, you will study ensemble performing and rehearsing as well as units on introductory music theory and Professional Practice. By the end of the units, you will be expected to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have compiled a project on music notation, explaining how and why different forms of notation is necessary in differing performing situations. 2. To have kept a practice diary which explains an effective plan or strategy for technical improvement, through a structured practice routine as a soloist and also as a member of a group. <p>The work outlined below will help you prepare for this, when completed properly.</p>
Securing	<p>Make a video recording of yourself performing the two songs specified below as they will be part of the BTEC Gig in October:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Time is Running Out' by Muse • 'We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together' by Taylor Swift <p>This could be with a backing track or unaccompanied at home. It is a chance for you to show us your current performing standard to demonstrate your strengths on your chosen instrument. A high standard is expected so it is suggested that you practise hard for this.</p>
Processing	<p>Start to compile research into different forms of music notation. This should include Guitar & Bass Tab, Drum notation and chord sheets. Include an example of each of the above forms of notation and explain how to read them and in what performance context you would expect to see them being used.</p>
Exploring	<p>Keep a practice diary for a minimum of 4 weeks (with an entry for at least 4 times a week) outlining the reason you are practising, what you are trying to improve and what you are doing in your practice to achieve your goal. The best diaries include written and recorded (video) evidence. After all, the results need to be audible!</p> <p>With practising, the goal needs to be SMART!</p> <p>Specific- pick a skill that is identifiable (e.g. I want to be able to play all the minor pentatonic scales, or I want to be able to play the first section of a grade 6 piece or want to improve my improvising in the key of F major, or want to improve my paradiddles at 120bpm).</p> <p>Whatever you choose, make sure it is...</p> <p>Measurable- make sure you can measure how you are progressing- you need to decide how to do this...</p> <p>Achievable- do not set the bar too low or high- Progress needs to be evident.</p> <p>Relevant- develop a technique or feature that will be of use to you.</p>

	<p>Time based- something that you can manage in about 4 weeks- if you want to complete it over more than 4 weeks, this is also acceptable.</p> <p>The practice diary will be collected by the end of the first 2 weeks in September, although you may submit it earlier. They may be written or videoed. We recommend a mixture of both so that you can discuss what and why you are practising in the video and so that progress can be heard. This will form part of your BTEC coursework evidence.</p> <p>In summary: read the articles above, watch the videos, set yourself a SMART goal, get practising and make a collection of videos over a 4-week period. Then make a performance recording too.</p> <p>We recommend these all be uploaded to Showbie (class code VF4TZ) so they are easily stored and accessed. The quality of the recordings is not as important as the content.</p> <p>Any questions, please contact Mrs Gregory (GregoryC@hgs.rklt.co.uk).</p>
Reviewing	<p>The following online articles will give you an overview of some of the basic practice related ideas encountered in the first term:</p> <p>http://www.wikihow.com/Practice-an-Instrument-Effectively</p> <p>http://www.hopestreetmusicstudios.com/articles/how-to-practice-a-musical-instrument</p> <p>http://lifehacker.com/learn-to-play-a-musical-instrument-in-less-time-with-sl-1507526591</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33rNgjJ7c9Q</p> <p>Challenge readings</p> <p>http://www.bulletproofmusician.com/why-the-progress-in-the-practice-room-seems-to-disappear-overnight</p> <p>The following online video will give you an insight into the research developing behind the psychology of instrument practice and its effects on the brain:</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f2O6mQkFiiw Challenge research</p> <p>Reflect on what you have learned through this work by doing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note down 5 new things that you found most interesting • What did you find most challenging and what did you feel most confident with? • Write down 3 questions that you would like to ask your teacher about the topic area(s) that you have been introduced to