
BTEC Level 3
National Diploma
**Music
Technology**



Music Technology is a subject with many transferable skills and here at St John Rigby College, we have numerous links with other institutions such as the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester University, York University, Edge Hill University, Birmingham Conservatoire, Salford University and BIMM to name a few.

Introduction

The course at SJR allows all students to achieve well and is part of an outstanding department in an outstanding college. The course is designed for students who have a genuine interest in recording, performing and composing in a range of musical styles, particularly popular music and jazz.

All students are offered individual lessons on their primary instrument with outstanding peripatetic musicians employed in the department for the study of performance practice.

Level Level 3

Specific course entry requirements

College entry plus either:

- + GCSE Music (minimum grade 4)
- + Grade 5 in an instrument
- + Grade 5 in music theory
- + Related experience of music inside/outside of school
- + By audition

What will I study?

You will study a wide range of specialist units throughout the course. This includes an intensive study of the recording studio and the processes involved in creating a music product, focusing on the equipment needed, appropriate microphone technique, correct studio procedures, mixing and mastering techniques. Another sizable part of the course investigates the use of sequencing software and will develop your ability to sequence both MIDI and audio material. You will look at the use of DAW software to aid in music composition, production, arrangement and performance through specific sequencing techniques.

All work in the department is completed using industry standard software (Logic Pro X, Mainstage, Ableton Live, Sibelius) on specialist Apple Mac computers.

The department features two Apple Mac labs, two classroom spaces, a recording studio, six practice spaces and a theatre space for music performance.

How will I be assessed?

There are ten units in total that make up the BTEC Diploma in Music Technology, each which are assessed through a range of practical and written assignments. Eight of the units are internally assessed through coursework activity and two are externally assessed through controlled assessment that will both take place in the usual classroom setting.

Where will this course lead me?

Due to the transferable skills that music offers, it is a highly regarded course for Higher Education institutions. Students progress to study Music and Music Technology

at university and many are invited to apply for a conservatoire for further study of this specialist subject.

Through our Maestro Programme, we work in partnership with many prestigious universities as well as the Royal Northern College of Music and Birmingham Conservatoire.

BTEC Diplomas are valued by both employers and higher education institutions. Successful completion of this two-year course offers various routes for progression, including higher education opportunities within Music Technology, Music Production and Performance courses or advancement to specialist music colleges. Employment opportunities within the music technology / production industry include studio management, live and studio engineering/production, music performance, music publishing, music journalism, product development, music therapy and much more.

The music department offers activities that allow students to begin building a portfolio of evidence that will give them a starting point upon completion of the course. We have links with local businesses and community groups that will allow students to make contacts before they leave college and a number of our students are already working alongside local theatres and performance / recording spaces.

Other career pathways from studying music related course have included:

History, Management, Digital Marketing, Cosmology, Engineering, Computing Forensics, Music Therapy, Veterinary Nursing and Pharmaceutical Science.

Students have gone on to study at Salford, Derby, Huddlesfield, Edge Hill, Bath, York, London School of Music Theatre, Guildford and Birmingham.

