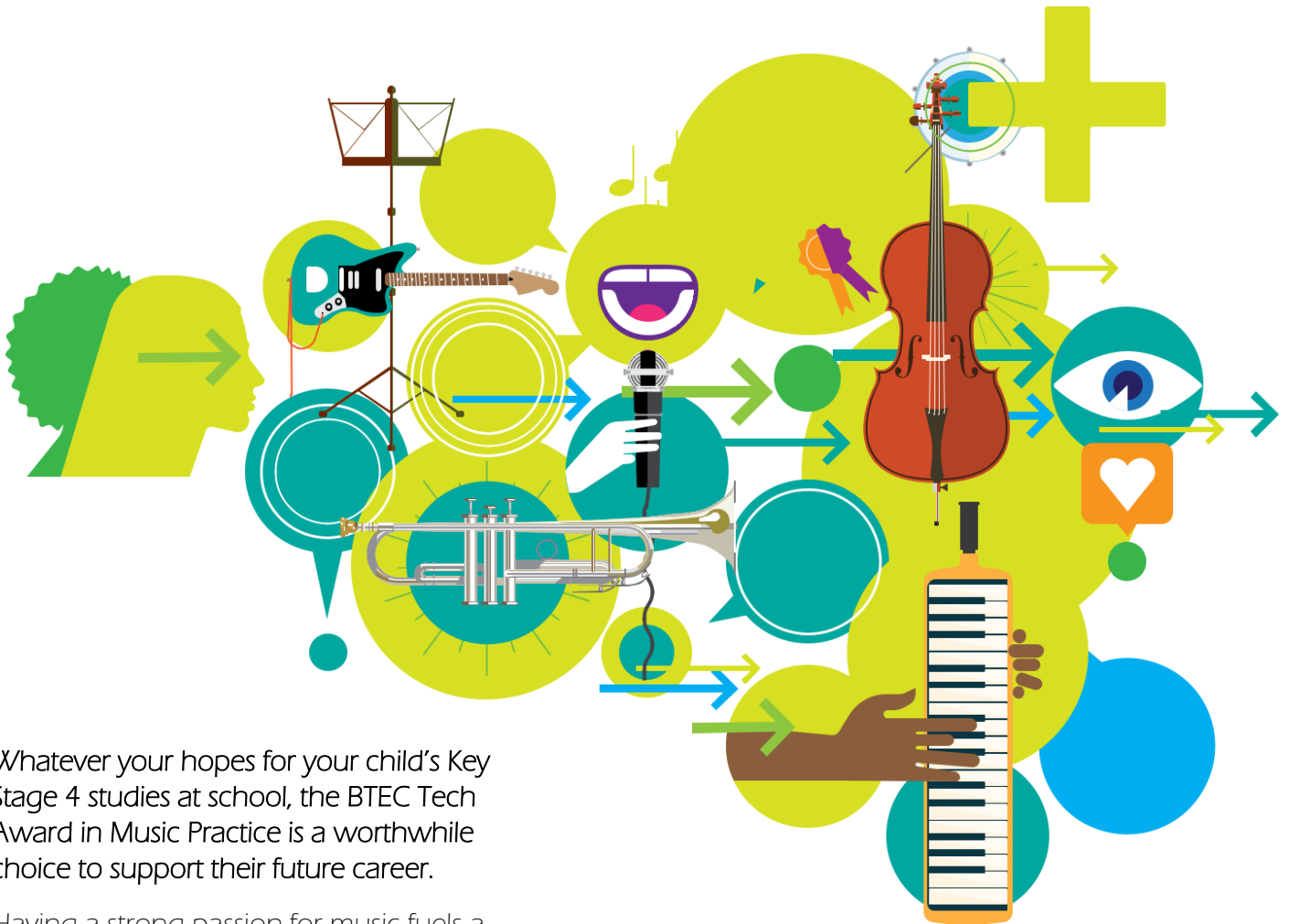


# Why choose BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice?



Whatever your hopes for your child's Key Stage 4 studies at school, the BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice is a worthwhile choice to support their future career.

Having a strong passion for music fuels a student's motivation to perform to a higher level. Their genuine love of a subject makes lessons more enjoyable, consequently raising their aspirations and future prospects.

Yet there are so many other reasons why your child might benefit from pursuing

Read on to find out more and learn about what's involved in the Music Tech Award.



# What are the benefits of BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice?

The Music Tech Award is a vocational course.

Music is what makes humans, human! As an industry, music covers and includes a phenomenal amount of different jobs. The BTEC is successful as it appeals to a wide range of interests as some students have a passion in performing, others may prefer to learn how to become a composer / songwriter whereas some will want to focus on using computer software to sequence and mix a track. You will need to be prepared to play an instrument or sing and we encourage you to have 1-1 tuition on these, however, formal grades are not necessary. The course is a mixture of practical and written work and as a vocational subject, it is assessed continuously throughout Years 10 and 11.

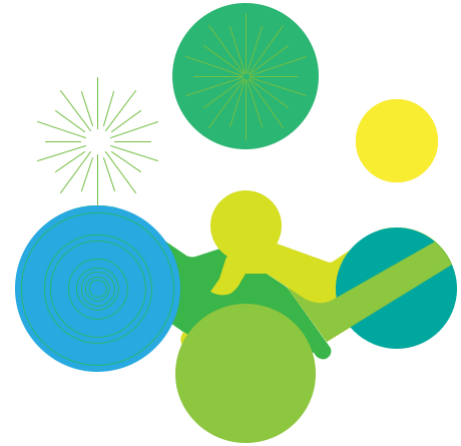
It is a creative qualification, and the course is able to support students with acquiring a variety of skills that future employers will value. The course also supports learners with their confidence and will challenge them to try new concepts and ideas.

Students are able to develop a wide variety of transferable skills ranging from:

- Teamwork
  - Leadership
  - Self-management
  - Communication
- Develop and present musical ideas to a set brief
  - Time management
  - Meeting deadlines
  - Exploring new genres of music
- Analysing, evaluating and enhancing their learning
  - Broadening their repertoire
  - Using specific musical vocabulary
  - Review and reflect different approaches

Studying music opens doors to many opportunities.

Don't let them close before your child has a chance to explore.



"[My BTEC] taught me so many good skills; time keeping, working towards a deadline, trying to achieve and set targets. It teaches you about real-life experiences"

Max Whitlock  
MBE Double Olympic Gold Medallist

Both employers and universities see creative subjects as assets.

Music is able to provide students with a range of skills that enhance their employment prospects. The discipline of learning an instrument, along with resilience and determination, thinking and creating, using one's initiative, and being able to communicate ideas are all invaluable assets. Universities and employers are always impressed by the skills musicians have due to their well-balanced curriculum.



# FAQs about BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice

Every school has slightly different entry requirements and approaches so it's always best to speak to the Subject Leader of Music at your child's school.

## What standard do they need to have reached in musical performance?

We understand that not all students take grades, but ideally, they will need to be around a Grade 4 standard on an instrument or voice by the end of the course in Year 11. Throughout the course students are able to specialise in a discipline, one of which is performing.

## Can I take Music Tech Award if I don't have instrumental lessons?

Instrumental lessons play a vital role in supporting your child's musical development. You will need to be prepared to play an instrument or sing for this course and we encourage you to have 1-1 tuition on these, however, formal grades are not necessary. We currently enjoy a wide range of visiting music teachers from the Solihull Music Service and the school pays a considerable amount towards the cost of tuition. However, we do ask for a contribution towards this.

Please see Miss Stewart for more details.

## What units could my child be studying?

The course is split into three distinct components and the grade achieved for each contributes to the overall grade received with other subject results in the summer of Year 11.

- Component 1 - Exploring Music Products and Styles (30%)
- Component 2 - Developing Music Skills (30%)
- Component 3 - Responding to a Music Brief (40%)

Through the different vocational units students will get hands on experience and listen to a wide variety of music across several genres and decades to trace the history of modern music. Students will develop their performance, composition and production / music technology skills.

## When will my child need to apply?

In the spring term most schools will put on 'options' information evenings where parents, carers and students can speak to teachers about possible courses. You will probably have to apply for the course in the February or March before the course starts. The most important thing to remember is to have conversations with your child's music department as soon as possible.

## How will my child's work be assessed?

The majority of student's work is assessed internally by the music department and then moderated by an external verifier. Component 3 is externally assessed with a formal written assignment in Year 11

"BTEC Music has helped me develop into a stronger musician. I am able to critique myself and can structure my own practise regimes. I also understand how important warming up is to my overall performance and the impact it can have on my voice"

Year 11 BTEC Music Student



# FAQs about BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice

continued

## Where could a Music Tech Award lead?

Music can filter into further studies such as Level 3 BTEC Music / Music Technology qualifications. Students might choose to continue learning at school in the sixth form or they may wish to transfer to a college. The Music Tech Award will complement their choices whatever the future may hold.

It can open doors to a range of education and employment pathways in:

### Music

The music industry covers a vast array of opportunities from journalist to blogger, live sound to recorded music, composer to performer, classroom teacher to instrumental tutor. The list is endless!

### The Arts/Creative Industries

The Music Tech Award can support your child's development into other creative areas. Media, film, TV and radio, all incorporating musical and artistic skills.

However, if they don't want to study music beyond KS4, is it still a smart choice?

The course provides many transferrable skills. From presenting ideas and pitching projects, through to analysing and recreating music – the Music Tech Award prepares students for a wide range of real-life situations.

### Other Professions

Music is highly regarded as a subject that works in harmony with your other studies in leading to a professional career such as medicine, law and accountancy.

If you require any further guidance or support in your decision-making process please contact Miss Stewart: [estewart@lodeheath.org.uk](mailto:estewart@lodeheath.org.uk)



**MYTH BUSTED: Music does not stop you getting into a profession such as law or medicine.**