



Independent Learning in BTEC Music



After each lesson, in addition to completing any set work, a pro-active, independent learner would...

- Ensure that notes or diary entries are completed, dated and filed suitably in a folder.
- Reflect upon the lesson and ways that they could improve their use of time for rehearsal and written work.
- Consider anything that needs to or could be organised prior to the next lesson. This could include written work that needs to be prepared, chords, notes or pieces of music that need to be learned or listened to.
- Look over the grading criteria for each module and consider if their work is currently up to the standard that it needs to be.
- Rehearse their instrument for at least 20 minutes a day (it is best to work out an effective rehearsal routine so that you are learning and developing new skills, not playing things that you already know).
- Listen to music – as much from as many genres as possible.
- Get involved in extra-curricular activities that will develop musicianship – bands, choirs, orchestras . It doesn't have to be in College: there are hundreds of musical opportunities across the region to get involved in.
- Go to see bands, musicians and live performances to get an understanding and appreciation of what good performance is.



Resources to help you study

Most key resources, will be provided to you within your lessons, and there are hundreds of ways to develop your musicianship that you will already use. Some additional resources to help you, though, are as follows:

| Resource | Description |
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| Various Music Magazines | Get passionate about music and music making by reading about musicians and music that interests you. You can find lots of magazines on different genres of music, or on different instruments (these often have lots of handy technical exercises to help develop your playing). |
| www.youtube.com | YouTube is a fantastic resource for many different reasons – learning lyrics in Karaoke Tracks, learning how to play parts in tutorial and many more – use it! |
| Various Instrumental books – both grading and otherwise | There are thousands of instrumental books to help develop your playing – both grading and just for fun. Pick up a few and begin the journey of mastery on your instrument . Many come with handy backing CDs to play along to. |

Stretch yourself

Approach a local music venue to see if you can volunteer to support and learn new skills - Front of House, Lighting Engineers, etc.