

Welcome

You are all, hopefully, wanting to continue with your music education by embarking on the BTEC Extended Certificate in Music Performance and we are looking forward to seeing you all in September. During the next few months you can begin to prepare for this by completing the following:

Practise, practise practise

This is a qualification in performance. Use this time to concentrate on technique. Research relevant technical exercises in your instrument or voice and spend a few minutes everyday practising them (boring but really, really important).

Improve your sight-reading

Some of you will have good notation reading skills, some of you may not read music at all. Use this time to improve your notation and sight-reading. There are lots of useful resources on-line e.g. <https://www.musictheory.net/>

Performance preparation

In September we would like you all to perform a piece (just to us not the class). Pick a piece and work towards that performance. We will be looking for accuracy, technique and, above all, musicality. Spend time choosing and working on a piece that really suits you and your strengths.

Extend your repertoire

We all have our preferred style however great musicians take influences from a vast range of styles. Stretch yourself by listening to and learning a piece in a different style e.g. if you are a rock guitarist try a classical piece; if you are a classical musician play around with a jazz piece etc

Research

Look into how different professional musicians started their careers; their backgrounds, early musical education, influences etc