

# LOVE MUSIC

"I love music at Stratford-upon-Avon College because I have met so many other people who have the same ambitions as I do and have gained knowledge from tutors that have had experience in the industry."

Melissa Hollick



## BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Music

### 1 year full-time, equivalent to 4 GCSEs at grade C or above

Are you a musician who has been playing for a year or two? Do you want to develop your skills and experience further? Are you interested in furthering your qualification profile, with a view to progressing to a higher level course of study?

If so, the BTEC Level 2 Diploma is for you.

This course is designed to develop a range of musical skills, while at the same time developing academic and personal skills that will enhance your employability and ability to progress to further study.

There is an opportunity to re-sit GCSE Mathematics or English for those who have achieved a grade D at GCSE.

### Facilities include:

- A suite of iMac computers running Logic and Sibelius music software
- Two recording studios and live rooms equipped with Pro Tools and Logic software
- Fully-equipped rehearsal studios for band work
- A range of performance spaces as well as access to off-site venues including Cox's Yard

### Assessment:

A BTEC Level 2 Diploma is a practical, work-related course. You learn by completing a range of exciting projects and assignments based on situations and demands relevant to working as a musician. By completing projects, you will gain grades for the various units, and an overall grade for the qualification is awarded at the end of the year. Projects include organising and playing at a number of public performances, sequencing using music technology and theory-based work. Attendance and application to all areas is essential for successful completion.

### To Join the Course:

You will need at least:

- 2 GCSEs at grade D or above including English Language
- Mature students without formal qualifications who show a convincing level of musical skill, such that you will be able to manage the demands of the course, will be considered.

In addition you will also need to be able to demonstrate your commitment to the course:

- Attend an interview
- Provide an acceptable reference
- Attend an audition (if you fail to attend the audition you will not be considered for the course)

### Audition Requirements:

- Prepare a single piece of music no longer than 4 minutes, demonstrating accuracy and an awareness of musical style, plus convincing musicianship skills such as attention to dynamics, interpretation, improvisational skills, a developed instrumental/vocal technique and good timekeeping
- We will also expect you to answer some questions about the piece and your playing skills e.g. time signature, key, chords etc
- Clap back simple rhythms and identify whether they are 4 or 3 in a bar
- Accurately sing pitches/small musical motifs that are played to you
- Recognise the sounds of major or minor chords
- Demonstrate appropriate knowledge of technical exercises, scales or drum rudiments
- A passport photo (with your name printed on the back) will be required

### Further Opportunities:

- Progression (with an overall merit profile) on to Level 3 courses, e.g. BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music/Music Technology
- Enter employment



## BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music

### 2 years full-time, equivalent to 3 A Levels

Are you interested in a career in music and want to increase your skills in playing, performing and composing? Do you want to study in a stimulating performing arts environment with a variety of music professionals and practitioners?

If so, then the BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma offers a comprehensive music education for the practical contemporary musician and is the course for you.

This course is for students who want to develop their performance skills and take part in performance projects. The course is based around the performance of a variety of musical styles in a range of exciting industry-based contexts developing performance, playing skills, improvisation and composition; and is supported by skills development in areas such as the music industry and the development of popular music as well as some music technology.

As well as the highly qualified and experienced teaching staff, you will also have the opportunity to encounter a wide variety of visiting industry professionals and guest lecturers. Over the past few years these have included...

- Billy Cobham - Fusion Drummer - Miles Davis and Mahavishnu Orchestra
- John Etheridge - Guitarist - Soft Machine
- Alex Thomas - Drummer - Badly Drawn Boy, Squarepusher and Air
- Dave Coulter - Multi-instrumentalist/MD - Damon Albarn and Richard Hawley
- Steve White - Drummer - Paul Weller and The Who
- Steve Cheney - Tour Manager/Stage Manager - Glastonbury Festival

### Facilities include:

- A suite of iMac computers running Logic and Sibelius music software
- Two recording studios and live rooms equipped with industry standard Pro Tools and Logic software
- Fully-equipped rehearsal studios for band work
- A range of performance spaces as well as access to off-site venues including Cox's Yard

### Assessment:

A Level 3 Extended Diploma is a practical, work-related course. You learn by completing a range of exciting projects and assignments based on situations and demands relevant to working in the music industry. By completing projects, you will gain grades for the various

units, and an overall grade for the qualification is awarded at the end of the two years. Projects include organising and playing at a number of public performances, sequencing and composing using music technology and composing for Orchestra.

### To Join the Course:

You will need at least:

- 4 GCSEs at grade C or above, which must include English Language and preferably Music and Mathematics

or

- BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Music (or other relevant subject) with an overall merit profile, plus GCSE English at grade C or above

and

- A proven musical background

Mature students without formal qualifications who show commitment to the subject area may be able to join the course following a successful interview and audition.

In addition you will also need to be able to demonstrate your commitment to the course:

- Attend an interview
- Provide an acceptable reference
- Attend an audition (if you fail to attend the audition you will not be considered for the course)

### Audition Requirements:

- Prepare a single piece of music no longer than 4 minutes, demonstrating accuracy, an awareness of musical style, and convincing musicianship skills
- Answer some questions about the piece and your playing skills e.g. time signature, key, chords etc.
- Undertake a short listening test
- Demonstrate appropriate knowledge of technical exercises, scales or drum rudiments
- Bring a written account of the piece you have chosen to perform
- A passport photo (with your name printed on the back) will be required

### Further Opportunities:

- Progression to Degrees or Higher National Diploma courses in subjects including: Performance, Production, Music and Media Applications, Sound Engineering, Music Business/Management, Teaching, Arts Administration etc. Career opportunities are greatly improved by taking this route
- Employment in a range of music industry related areas including performance, promotion, management and instrumental teaching



## BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music Technology

### 2 years full-time, equivalent to 3 A Levels

Are you interested in a career in music and want to increase your skills in recording and music technology? Do you want to study in a stimulating environment with a variety of music professionals and practitioners?

If so, then the BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music Technology is for you.

This course is for students who are musically motivated and play a musical instrument, but are more interested in studio work 'on the other side of the desk'. You will focus on recording using Logic and Pro Tools software, and completing a range of studio-based recording projects which will, from time to time, utilise playing and composition skills too. You will also learn about and be responsible for operating live sound for Music Department performances. This is supported by skills development in a range of important areas such as the development of popular music, music performance session styles and the music industry.

As well as working with the highly qualified and experienced teaching staff, you will also have the opportunity to encounter a wide variety of visiting industry professionals and guest lecturers. Over the past few years these have included:

- Robin Millar - Platinum Selling Record Producer - Sade, John Mayall, Randy Crawford and Yusef Islam
- Billy Cobham - Fusion Drummer - Miles Davis and Mahavishnu Orchestra
- Alex Thomas - Session Drummer - Badly Drawn Boy, Squarepusher and Air
- Steve White - Drummer - Paul Weller and The Who
- Steve Cheney - Tour Manager/Stage Manager - Glastonbury Festival

### Facilities include:

- A suite of iMac computers running Logic and Sibelius music software
- Two recording studios and live rooms equipped with industry standard Pro Tools and Logic software
- Fully-equipped rehearsal studios for band work
- A range of performance spaces as well as access to off-site venues including Cox's Yard

### Assessment:

A BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma is a practical, work-related course. You learn by completing a range of exciting projects and assignments based on situations and demands relevant to working in the field of music technology. By completing projects, you will gain grades for

the various units, and an overall grade for the qualification is awarded at the end of the year. Projects undertaken during this course include organising and undertaking a number of recording sessions, composing and recording commissioned songs and operating live sound.

### To Join the Course:

You will need at least:

- 4 GCSEs at grade C or above, which must include English Language and preferably Music and Mathematics
- or
- BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Music (or other relevant subject) with an overall merit profile, plus GCSE English at grade C or above
- and
- A proven musical background

Mature students without formal qualifications who show commitment to the subject area may be able to join the course following a successful interview and audition.

In addition you will need to be able to demonstrate your commitment to the course:

- Attend an interview
- Provide an acceptable reference
- Attend an audition (if you fail to attend the audition you will not be considered for the course)

### Audition Requirements:

- Prepare a single piece of music no longer than 4 minutes, demonstrating accuracy, awareness of musical style and convincing musicianship skills
- You should present a recording that evidences your involvement with music technology and be prepared to answer questions on the nature of your role in the recording
- You will be required to attend a workshop session utilising music technology to help ascertain your suitability for the course
- A passport photo (with your name printed on the back) will be required

### Further Opportunities:

- Progression to Degrees or Higher National Diploma courses in subjects including: Production, Music and Media Applications, Sound Engineering, Music Business/Management, Teaching etc. Career opportunities are greatly improved by taking this route
- Employment in a range of music industry related areas including studio work, teaching, promotion, management and live sound engineering/events production

