

## **Statement of Purpose**

### **(501/0654/5) Level 2 Subsidiary Diploma for Music Practitioners**

The Level 2 Subsidiary Diploma for Music Practitioners provides a music industry qualification that will equip learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding for entry to employment in the music industry or progression to further study at a higher level. The qualification aims to offer practical structured learning with the flexibility to specialise in different disciplines directly relevant to employment within the music industry, including composition, performance, business and technology.

The qualification is primarily technical in nature, since it equips students wishing to develop realistic employment opportunities in the music industry or to progress to further study. It focuses upon the recognition of achievement through practical musical skills, production skills and business skills, as well as offering flexibility of unit combination. The flexibility and range of unit choice are directly applicable to the Music Industry where portfolio careers are the norm and those seeking employment often require knowledge and skills covering a breadth of relevant disciplines. "The UK's music sector is dynamic, innovative and fast-moving, and the range of job roles available follows suit. Many of those working in the sector take on more than one role at a time, or adjust the role to suit the needs of their business." (Creative and Cultural Skills, The Music Blueprint – An Analysis of the skills needs of the music sector in the UK, 2011)

The Subsidiary Diploma is one of a suite of qualifications ranging from Level 1 to Level 3 and ranging in size from Awards to Diplomas, it is not currently available as part of an apprenticeship. The reason for the different sizes is to meet the needs both of learners wishing to take a substantial qualification such as this, and of those hoping to develop their skills in a more specific area with a qualification that can be completed in a smaller time frame.

#### Content

Those on the performing pathway can develop their skills and understanding of musicianship, repertoire, rehearsal, auditioning, promotion, and live/recorded performance. Those on the composing pathway can develop their skills and understanding of composing and arranging skills, musicianship, style development, repertoire, collaboration, promotion, historical and contextual issues and realisation of repertoire. Those on the technology pathway can develop their skills and understanding of acoustics, inputs and levels, recording and sequencing skills, mixing and production, lighting, podcast production, historical and contextual issues and realisation of their repertoire. Those on the business pathway can develop their skills and understanding of the UK music industry, wider creative industries, business planning, project management, event management, revenue, contracts, licensing, historical and contextual issues and marketing & promotion. Learners will produce evidence such as video/audio recordings of their work, plans, evaluations and reports.

Further information regarding the qualification's content can be found in the following sections of the qualification Syllabus:

Section B.1 (A summary of content for each pathway)

Section B.3 (Qualification Structure Tables listing units available in each pathway)

Detailed content information about each unit can be found in the Syllabus Pack, which can be downloaded from the Rockscool website at:

<http://www.rockschool.co.uk/qualifications/vocationalqualifications/musicpractitioner/>  
(See folders entitled 'Level 2 Unit Specifications and Level 2 Grading Criteria')

#### Progression & Employment

Learners completing this qualification will have the skills to progress straight into the music industry. It is divided into specific pathways offering the opportunity to undertake specialised learning that can be accurately matched to specific career sectors in the music industry. However the array of optional units within the qualification also allows learners to cover a range of aspects of the music industry whichever pathway they select, this reflects the nature of employment within the music industry which often involves individuals undertaking multiple roles as part of a 'portfolio career', many in a freelance capacity.

Occupational areas this qualification can lead on to include:

- Songwriter/Recording Artist/ Performer & Session Musician
- Promotion/Management/Artist Support Services
- Producer & Engineer
- Live Music Production, Promotion & Organisation

#### Vocational Learning

Learners take a core unit from their chosen pathway, which provides skills, knowledge and competency within that pathway, and can relate to one or more of the occupational areas listed above. The core unit represents 12.5% of the whole qualification. However, as previously mentioned, since employment in the music industry involves multiple roles, the minimum vocational learning relating to the occupation of 'Music Practitioner' is 100%.

Alternatively, learners can progress to further study at Level 3 on qualifications such as:

RSL Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma for Music Practitioners (600/6613/1)  
RSL Level 3 Diploma for Music Practitioners (600/6609/X)  
RSL Level 3 Extended Diploma for Music Practitioners (600/6612/X)  
Pearson BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music (500/7717/X)  
Pearson BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music Technology (500/7716/8)  
NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Managing a Music Business Enterprise (501/1735/X)  
AQA Level 3 Advanced GCE in Music (500/2452/8)

#### Support for this Qualification

The following professional bodies and employers support this qualification as being fit for purpose, in that it will equip learners with the knowledge and skills relevant to various sectors of the music industry:

MPA (Music Publishers Association)  
MIA (Music Industries Association)  
BASCA (British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors)  
Coda Music Agency  
ATM Management  
Supajam  
Music Sales  
Langlei Studios

Letters of support can be found at <http://www.rockschool.co.uk/qualifications/music/vocational-qualifications/music-practitioner/purposesandsupport.aspx>