

Nower Hill 6th Form:

*Inspiration, excellence,
opportunity - a confident future*

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY A Level



Awarding Body

Edexcel

Who is the course for?

Students who are interested in recording, music production, writing music for film/TV/video games, and popular music.

What can it lead to?

Careers in the music and media industries. Many music degree courses are wholly or partly based on music technology. The course involves many transferable I.T. skills

What are the entry requirements?

Students must achieve Grade C or above in GCSE Music or grade C or above (or equivalent) in Music Technology

Students must also achieve Grade C or above in Maths and Science.

What will I Study?

This course extends your understanding of the role technology plays in our experience of music today and how it affects the way music is produced and listened to. You'll use technology to compose and arrange your own recordings, gaining a thorough grounding in sequencing and recording skills. The emphasis is on practical performance and production skills. You will learn how to record in a studio and mix your tracks.

How will I be taught?

Individual and group work, whole class teaching and practical sessions.

For homework, students will have to complete preparation for their coursework tasks. Students will be set tasks that involve listening, research and writing.

Parents can help by encouraging students to listen to a wide range of musical compositions and styles. If possible, purchase any of the software that the school uses. This can be done through the school at excl. VAT prices.

How will I be assessed?

40% externally assessed coursework portfolio. 25% written examination: "listening and analysing" and a 35% written and practical examination: "producing and analysing."

The student is assessed through four Components:

1. Recording & Producing
2. Technology Based Composition
3. Listening & Analysing
4. Producing & Analysing

To prepare for the listening and analysing exam many genres and pieces of music will be studied, charting popular music from 1930 to the present. The development of recording and production techniques will also be examined.

Date(s) of Assessment

May /June

What equipment or materials will I need?

Lever arch file, punched pockets, headphones, USB pen drive or external hard drive.

Are there any links to other courses?

Music Technology links with other performing arts such as Dance, Drama and Media studies. There is also a strong link with Physics and Maths.