Music

CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL
ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

Course: Level 3 BTEC National in Music (EDEXCEL) (601/7090/6) Extended Certificate (equivalent to A Level)

Entry Requirements: 5 grade 9-4 Inc. English and Maths and Grade 5 or above at GCSE Music is desirable. This course is designed for students who wish to develop their musical skills beyond GCSE and/or for students who have studied music outside of the classroom and have obtained nationally recognised qualifications other than GCSE. Students must be performers and have an instrument (or voice) that they play to a good standard.

Aims of the Course:
Students complete a range of units focussed around music performance and composition skills. They will have a range of opportunities to perform and will explore all elements of performance technique. They will also investigate areas of the music industry and develop their music theory.

Course Content:
Learning styles are centred on the individual learner and much of the work will be practical. There will be lessons on all aspects of performance, composition and the music industry, including practice skills, interpretation and communication. There will be opportunities to perform in school concerts and at the theatre which students will be expected to make the most of. Students complete at least four units over two years. Each unit consists of several assignments as follows:

(Extended Certificate)
Ensemble Music Performance: Work as part of a group learning, rehearsing and performing pieces for an audience.
Practical Music Theory & Harmony: Develop notation skills such as how to understand and write rhythms, pitches and musical expression and then utilise musical techniques such as scales and chords to compose and notate melodies.
Professional Practice in the Music Industry: Explore the professional side of the music industry and put forward a bid for work by conducting research and completing a written task.
Optional Unit: Students may have some flexibility to choose a unit depending on their musical skills. Possible choices include: Solo performance, Music promotion, Composing music, Music performance session styles.

Assessment:
There is a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications. The main forms of assessment are external (marked by exam board) and internal (marked by school). Much of the work will be practical.

Career Opportunities:
BTEC Nationals have proven recognition around the world and enable progression to university and employment. The course is particularly useful for students wishing to pursue a career as a performer or song writer, or in any other aspect of work in the music industry, such as studio work, sound technicians, record companies, etc.

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