

# Welcome to BTEC EXT cert in music (Alevel sized)

- **What you can read:**

*'Rockschool' instrumental books from the RSL series.*

*'The AB guide to music theory' by Eric Taylor*

*'Course specification' link below*

*note –The optional unit picked up will be 'Composition'*

[https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Nationals/Music/2017/Specification/9781446928110\\_BTEC\\_Nat\\_ExtCert\\_Music\\_Spec\\_prep\\_ubfinal.pdf](https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Nationals/Music/2017/Specification/9781446928110_BTEC_Nat_ExtCert_Music_Spec_prep_ubfinal.pdf)

- **What you can watch:**

The course assesses your performance skills, hence, the watching material should be instrumentally specific to you. We do expect you to be a relatively decent level on your instrument, but you don't need to have any graded examinations.

The website [www.teoria.com](http://www.teoria.com) is a fantastic resource for learning music theory and it would be beneficial to familiarise yourself with the website.

- **What are some of the topics and skills that you will cover:**

- **Composition-** learning how to write pieces of music in many different styles ranging from Reggae to Jazz.
- **Music Theory-** it is important that all musicians know how to use music theory to write and read music. Music theory is not taught in the traditional sense for this subject and the examples used will largely be modern music with an emphasis on chords, melody, rhythm and tonality.
- **Performance-** Performance is one of the core parts of this course. The particular main focus is that of ensemble performance skills, which is playing as a part of a group of musicians or as part of a band.
- **Music Industry-** how the music industry works and how job roles are organised within the sector.

- **Tasks that you can do to prepare you:**

<b><u>Task</u></b>	<b><u>Link to the course/specification</u></b>
<p><b>Task 1.</b> Create a music theory guide of how the basics of music theory work. We don't need traditional terminology for this task, but rather a guide as to how the following works. Look at the basics of Chords and Rhythm using the teoria website mentioned above and write about how Chords and Rhythm works.</p>	<p><b>ALL</b> The basics of theory are essential for composing music. This links to the specification.</p>
<p><b>Task 2.</b> Prepare a piece that you can perform. This will be performed to the class within the first 2 weeks of the course to assess your current level on your instrument</p>	<p><b>ALL</b> Performance is large part of this course and this is a good opportunity to show your peers what you play and music you are interested in.</p>
<p><b>Task 3</b> Write a report on job roles within the music industry and what each of the job roles does.</p>	<p><b>Links to the external examination unit of the course.</b></p>

- **Contact information**

If you have questions regarding this or any other A Level course at Burnley College, please contact [alevels@burnley.ac.uk](mailto:alevels@burnley.ac.uk) or call 01282733373

We look forward to seeing you in September.