NCFE: Technical Award

VCERT MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

(Level 1/2)

The Music Department are pleased to be able to offer the Music Technology VCert, a qualification administered by NCFE. Below is an overview of the course as well as other information that will be of use to students considering this as an option.

Course Overview:

Coursework unit / Exam title	Details
Unit 1: Using a Digital Audio Workstation	You will learn how to set up and work a digital audio workstation. You will then create a musical project (using both MIDI and audio) that demonstrates your understanding of a DAW. Finally you will review your music project.
Unit 2: Creating Music	You will study a range of musical styles from 1950 onwards, looking at key stylistic elements for each one. You will then select one of the styles to compose your own piece in before evaluating your piece.
Unit 3: Studio Recording	You will learn how to set up and work the recording studio. You will then plan and undertake a live recording session. Finally you will mix down your work and review the final product.
Unit 4: Sound Creating	You will look at how to create different sounds using music technology. You will then complete a project that demonstrates your understanding of sound creation for a specific event. You will review your final project.
Please note that the coursework units combine to give 50% of the overall mark for this course	
Practical Paper (Exam) 35%	For this exam you will be given a series of steps to work through using music technology software, logic. You will need to fully document the processes that you have been through. There will be an exam in January of Year 11 with an opportunity to re-sit in June of Year 11.
Listening Paper (Exam) 15%	This exam will cover everything that you have learnt in units 1-4 and will be a mix of multiple choice, short and longer answer questions. There will be an exam in January of Year 11 with an opportunity to re-sit in June of Year 11.
Please note that the examinations combine to give 50% of the overall mark for this course	

Students will receive **five** hours of lessons over the two week timetable for this course. In addition there will be compulsory after school sessions at various points during the two years which students will be expected to attend. Notification for these will be given in advance.

How is it graded?

Students will be graded for each unit and examination that they complete, with the levels combining to give an overall grade. Each will use the following system (approximate GCSE equivalent is indicated in brackets):

L1 – Pass   (1)
L1 – Merit   (3-2)
L1 – Distinction   (4)

L2 – Pass   (5)
L2 – Merit   (6-7)
L2 – Distinction   (8-9)

Students will be entered for either a Level 1 or a Level 2 qualification depending on the standard of coursework that they have produced during the course.

Recommended Entry Requirements

It is recommended that all students opting for this course will:

- be competent on at least one instrument
- have a keen interest in Music Technology
- be able to work independently
- strive to achieve their very best in all aspects of the course

Resources

Students will have full use of:

- 15 iMac computers in M1
- Recording studio
- Recording mixing room (inc. iMac computer & mixing desk)
- Logic software (for sequencing, audio recording and editing)
- Portable digital recorders
- Microphones
- MIDI keyboards

Woking Studios: Recording studio & mixing room

iMacs, in M1, running Logic for each student to use

For more information about this course please visit: www.ncfe.org.uk or email c.drake@wcsc.org.uk