

## Overview

I am really looking forward to teaching you the course next year. The skills you learn will enable you to explore the most modern ways of creating music and sound, allowing you to find new ways to enjoy and explore music. As well as the course, there are many opportunities for pursuing music outside of lessons. There are a variety of clubs and a performing arts production each year where a full student band is needed to provide the music. Below I have put together a range of resources to give you an insight into some of the course content.

## Activities

The music software we use on the course is called Ableton Live. As a student, you are entitled to 40% off all versions of the software if you want to use the software at home. However, you can have a go at some interactive tasks that will give you a basic overview of how to use the software as well as an introduction to synthesis. Follow the links below:

<https://learningsynths.ableton.com/en/>

<https://learningmusic.ableton.com>

## Reading

**How Music Works** - David Byrne

**A Single Note** – Daphne Oram

## Podcasts

- **Song Exploder** – famous musicians talk through how they created a song. Some of these include Tame Impala, FKA Twigs, Slipknot, Clairo, Fleetwood Mac, Alt-J, Lorde... (there are tons!).
- **Hanging Out Audiophiles** – is a really good podcast hosted by Jamie Lidell. He interviews famous musicians about their music making process and is well worth listening to. A few particularly well-known guests are Mura Masa, Blake Mills and Mark Ronson. These podcasts can be found on [jamielidellmusic.com](http://jamielidellmusic.com).

## Documentaries

Here are some interesting documentaries that mostly focus on how music technology has influenced music.

- ◇ I Dream Of Wires
- ◇ Sample This
- ◇ Dub Echoes
- ◇ The Defiant Ones
- ◇ Anvil! The Story of Anvil

## YouTube Channels

\* **FACTmagazine** – this YouTube channel includes interviews and live performances with electronic musicians. It also has a feature called Against the Clock where producers make a song from scratch in ten minutes. This is actually pretty similar to quite a few lessons on the course, although you usually get more than ten minutes!

\* **Redbull Music Academy** – this channel features interviews with lots of artists, producers and music industry people. Madlib, Robyn, Philip Glass, Bootsy Collins, Skepta to name a few, but there are lots on there.

## Course Specifications

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Nationals/Music-Technology/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/BTEC-L3-Nat-ExtCert-Music-Tech-Spec.pdf>