

Exam Board: NCFE

Written Exam – 40% of the course
1 hour 30 mins (lesson time)

Content Area 1

- Job roles and responsibilities
- Development of music technology
- Music business
- Selling and distributing music

Content Area 2

- Hardware components of the DAW (computer, peripherals, audio interface, controller keyboard)
- Software features of the DAW (track types, editing tools, instrument plug-ins, effects plug-ins)
- Health and safety

Content Area 3

- Musical elements (structure, form, melody, harmony, rhythm, instrumentation)
- Musical and technical features of genres

Content Area 4

- Forms of media (movies, video games, TV shows, animation, theatre, radio, podcasts etc.)
- Types of sound creation (foley, ambience, dialogue, voiceover, spot effects)
- Methods of sound creation (physical props, environmental sounds, synthesis, sample manipulation, effects libraries)
- Arranging sounds

Content Area 5

- Equipment in the recording studio
- Microphone selection (type, polar pattern, frequency response)
- Microphone placement (proximity effect, off axis)
- Mixing multitrack audio (balance, pan, dynamics, EQ, reverb, bounce)

Revision Tips and Resources

- Use Quizlet sets to learn key vocabulary (MrBryanGSHS)
- Past papers and mark schemes on Teams
- Exam-style questions assignment on Teams
- All PPTs in the shared drive
- Knowledge organisers on the shared drive
- Read through do-now tasks to aid retention

Mock NEA – 60% of the course
10 hours (mixture of invigilated and lesson time)

Preparation Time (2 hours)

- You will have two hours of lesson time to create resources that you can bring with you into the controlled assessment.

Responding to the Brief (2 hours)

- Produce a proposal including:
- Musical elements used:
 - Melody
 - Harmony
 - Structure and Form
 - Instrumentation
 - Style
 - Sound creation elements
 - Reasoning behind decisions made

Planning for Production (1 hour)

- A timescale for your production (with justification)
- Hardware requirements (describe uses)
- Software requirements (DAW, plug-ins, effects)
- Health and safety considerations

Production of the Piece (6 hours)

- Create the piece,
- Mix the piece
- Document the process of creation

Evaluation (1 hour)

- How did the technical skills, processes, tools and techniques used support you in meeting the brief?
- How could you improve your finished piece in relation to the brief? Be specific and use technical vocabulary.
- An alternative approach to the brief.

Revision Tips and Resources

- Read and annotate the L2D exemplar to give an idea of the expected standard.
- Practice creating musical ideas in your free time.
- Practice using Pro Tools in P1 after school to gain fluency.
- Use Quizlet sets to learn key vocabulary and use this key vocabulary in your written work.