

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

A bitesize overview of the curriculum.

YEAR 1

- **Recording Techniques:** Pupils are introduced to basic recording techniques, which often include microphone placement, capturing live instruments, and understanding the signal flow in a studio environment.
- **Digital Audio Workstations:** In the first year, pupils typically get hands-on experience with the software used such as Logic Pro and Ableton Live. They learn basic functionalities such as track creation, MIDI sequencing, and basic audio editing.
- **Studio Hardware and Acoustics:** The first year includes an introduction to essential hardware (synths, controllers, microphones) and concepts like synthesis and creative effects.
- **Sequencing and Sampling:** Pupils are introduced to the basics of sequencing, programming drum patterns, and using software instruments.
- **Critical Listening:** Critical listening skills are usually introduced in Year 1, focusing on the ability to analyse different elements of a musical piece such as instrumentation, recording techniques and production techniques.

YEAR 2

- **Advanced Recording and Production Techniques:** Year 2 usually delves deeper into the world of recording and production components. Pupils will work on coursework involving multi-track recording, advanced microphone techniques, and more complex arrangements.
- **Mixing and Mastering:** Pupils will focus on the post-production process, including mixing and mastering. They learn about advanced techniques such as EQ, compression, reverb, and other audio effects. The goal is to produce a polished, radio-ready track by the end of the course.
- **Comprehensive DAW Usage:** Pupils become proficient in using music production software by the end of Year 2.
- **In-Depth Music Analysis:** Pupils will study the historical development of recording technology, dissect the production techniques used in landmark albums, and analyse the impact of technology on popular music genres.
- **Coursework and Portfolio Development:** Year 2 usually places significant emphasis on producing music, where pupils are expected to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they've acquired through mixing a track.

WHAT SUBJECTS COULD I STUDY AT UNIVERSITY?

- Music Technology
- Sound Design for Film and TV
- Science in Audio Engineering

WHAT CAREERS COULD THIS LEAD TO?

- Sound Engineering
- Music Production
- Recording Engineer

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Studio Visits or Guest Workshops
- Live Sound Engineering Experience
- Music Production Classes