Level 3 RSL Music

Exam board and specification: RSL Awards (Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma for Music Practitioners)

What you need to study this course: A minimum of Grade 4 in GCSE Music or a Pass in BTEC Music (or equivalent experience), alongside practical ability on an instrument or voice. A passion for creating, performing and developing as a musician is essential.

Why you should consider this course

Music is a powerful and creative subject that allows you to express ideas, emotions and identity. This course is ideal for students who want to develop as performers, composers, and all-round musicians while gaining insight into the music industry. You will build practical skills, confidence, and independence, as well as learn how to plan a sustainable career in music. Whether you aspire to perform, produce, teach, or work behind the scenes, this course provides a strong foundation.

What you will study

Year 12: Musicianship (15 credits), Improving Instrumental Skills (15), Planning a Career in Music (15)

Year 13: Improvisation (15), Rehearsal and Performance Skills (30)

- Musicianship focuses on developing your listening, theory, and understanding of music.
- Improving Instrumental Skills develops your technical ability and performance confidence.
- Planning a Career in Music introduces the structure of the music industry and career pathways.
- Improvisation builds creativity and spontaneity in performance.
- Rehearsal Skills and Live Music Performance develops ensemble/solo performance, and professional practice.

How you will be assessed:

This is a coursework-based qualification assessed through practical and portfolio work rather than final written exams.

Assessment includes:
- Live performances (solo and ensemble)
- Recorded performances
- Coursework portfolios
- Written assignments and reflections
- Presentations and project work

You will be assessed on:

- Technical and expressive performance skills
- Creativity and originality
- Planning and organisation
- Understanding of the music industry
- Ability to evaluate and improve your work

Where can it take you?

This qualification can lead to a wide range of music and creative industry pathways, including:

- University degrees in Music, Music Production, or Performing Arts
- Higher-level apprenticeships in the creative industries
- Specialist music colleges or conservatoires

Career options include:
- Performer (solo or band musician)
- Music producer or sound engineer
- Composer or songwriter
- Music teacher or workshop leader
- Artist manager or promoter
- Session musician
- Live sound technician

Level 3 Music Alumni Destinations:

Sussex University, BIMM Music Institute, Legacy Youth Club