Btec Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music (Performing)

Year 11 into 12 prep work

You will be starting work on two units in September.

Unit 40 Working and Developing as a Musical Ensemble

This unit involves writing a case study on a band of your choice; forming a musical ensemble, choosing your own performance material and developing with your ensemble towards a performance that will take place in March 2021.

The first written assignment you will have is an in-depth case study of your favourite band/ensemble and the reasons why you believe this band/ensemble to be successful. You should try to choose a band that is active on social media, has plenty of performance videos on Youtube for analysis and video footage of rehearsals, sound checks before gigs, interviews etc.

Prepare a short presentation on a band of your choice. Include:

- Information about how the band formed
- biographical information about your band members, including photos
- a video of a performance that you think shows your band to be a successful ensemble
- You need to explain, using specific parts of this video (eg. From 2mins 45 secs-2 mins 53 secs you can see Matilda communicating with the audience by using call and response. This engages the audience...) to explain why they are successful.
- Specific elements to look out for are: communication eg musical interaction, interaction with audience, listening skills; co-operation and strengths and weaknesses

I will need to approve your chosen ensemble in September before you develop it further so, think carefully!!

Unit 23 Music Performance Techniques

Prepare/practice songs for a 10 minute recital, taking place at the beginning of November. You should choose 3-4 pieces (depending on length)

- The pieces of music should contrast- different tempo, mood, genre etc,
- Keep a logbook of your practice routine. You should explain how you have warmed up (breathing exercises/scales etc.) and how you practiced your pieces of music.
 eg. are there parts that are quite tricky and you keep having to go over them? Do you need to practice slowly at first and gradually build up speed?
- You should be practicing for 20-30 minutes at least 4 times a week and should video yourself rehearsing at least once a week.
- You will need to bring your logbook and your practice videos to your first lesson in September

If you have any questions, please contact me (Mrs Priest)

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