

# 5 WORK SKILLS MUSIC WILL GIVE YOU



## CREATIVITY AND IMAGINATION



**In school:** Whether you are creating your own composition or performing somebody else's, music requires you to apply your imagination to develop new ideas, work with existing compositions, or perform compositions in an...

## COMPOSITION



**In school:** You will learn how to create a composition by developing, extending and manipulating musical ideas. You will develop your own compositions to a set brief, and also from scratch without any guidance. You will create your composition either on a musical instrument or with...

## TECHNICAL SKILLS



**In school:** You will perform and compose music on instruments, using the voice or with musical software. This will require you to read musical notation and apply technical control (such as pitch, rhythm, tone and synchronisation) and expressive control (such as tempo, dynamics, phrasing and...

## TEAMWORK



**In school:** Musicians often play together in ensembles. You will learn to play alongside other musicians, requiring sympathy and responsiveness. You will learn to take and deliver feedback from other musicians within an ensemble setting in order to improve the collective performance.



## CRITICAL THINKING



**In school:** The study of music involves the application of your in-depth knowledge of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language to offer a critical appraisal of compositions, genres and styles. You will learn to identify what makes a piece of music distinctive, what tradition it fits into, how...



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# MUSIC

## careers in music

acoustics  
event management  
music therapy  
arts administration  
music journalism  
musical instrument technology  
radio broadcasting

performing  
composing  
music recording  
music production  
promotions management  
sound technology  
music publishing

deejaying  
audio engineering  
teaching  
artist management  
sound operations  
conducting  
community arts music

## **Careers in Music**

Studying music can give you a great mix of social, technical and business skills, which can all help in acquiring the following skills that define employability; self- management, team working, problem-solving, application of IT, communication and literacy, application of numeracy, business and customer awareness.

While some of these skills are acquired by students of all subjects, for example, team work, good communication and self-management, music students have an edge. The experience of organising, hosting and performing in events that are open to the public provides them with skills beyond those on other programmes, requiring knowledge of customer awareness, or interaction with the public, for example.

In the words of Albert Einstein: "The greatest scientists are artists as well". Music is kind of like part art, part science! Which means it will help you build your problem solving, research, planning, analytical and critical thinking skills, as well as develop your creativity.

Not to mention discipline, composure under pressure, time management, communication, team and individual working ability - all gained from practice and performing. You might also learn technical skills through using computers, equipment and software to create and record music.

### **Jobs directly related to Music include:**

- Music producer
- Music therapist
- Musician
- Private music teacher
- Secondary school teacher
- Sound designer
- Sound engineer
- Sound technician, broadcasting/film/video
- Special effects technician

### **Jobs where Music would be really useful include:**

- Arts administrator
- Broadcast engineer
- Choreographer
- Community arts worker
- Event manager
- Marketing executive
- Private tutor
- Radio broadcast assistant
- Radio producer
- Talent agent
- Theatre stage manager

## Typical employers

There are many options open as a music graduate and you can choose to work in a range of professions inside and outside music. Having a portfolio career is quite common if you follow a music career and you may end up working on both a freelance and contract basis. For example, you could combine teaching with freelance performance work, as well as doing contract/session work on particular projects.

Employers include:

- music production companies - creative and administrative roles
- music retailers
- media organisations - including music magazines and licensing bodies
- schools and colleges
- orchestras, opera companies and touring companies
- travel industry companies, e.g. hotels, summer camps and cruises
- mental healthcare providers and charitable organisations
- the armed forces
- a range of employers in the cultural and creative industries including film and gaming companies.

## Skills for your CV

A music degree gives you a broad base of skills including:

- good physical dexterity, memory and concentration - developed in practice and performance
- creativity - developed through a range of creative projects
- communication skills - developed through performing and engaging listeners
- teamwork - through working in bands or orchestras as a player, leader or manager
- self-management - physical and mental self-discipline achieved through regular practice
- performing under pressure - overcoming nervousness in order to perform well during exams, concerts and auditions
- planning and time management - organising and working towards a project/performance
- technical skills and expertise - using technology to create and record music and studying acoustics
- critical reflection - giving and receiving criticism, learning from mistakes and striving for improved performance

## Studying Music at university

University courses include:

- Music
- Musical theatre
- Music education
- Music and communities
- Sound and music for games
- Commercial songwriting
- Music business
- Songwriting
- Audio recording and production
- Music composition and technology
- Sound engineering