



## INDEPENDENT STUDY – Preparation Consolidation Reflection

*Remember you should be studying one hour independently for every hour of lesson time. In your independent study periods, once homework and assignments are complete, you should complete tasks from the following list:*

### Preparation:

- Refer to your curriculum overview and highlight any practical activities or associated key terminology you do not understand to independently research or seek further support and guidance.
- Complete wider reading using online sources such as Sound on Sound magazine, Propellerheads, Steinberg, MusicTech and KVR websites.
- There is no required textbook for the programme of study, however, reading around the subject will greatly increase your chances of a merit/distinction. There are many excellent music technology books. Particularly look out for any books by Paul White such as his basic series which are affordable pocket size books with useful guidance: White P and Rocha M – Basic Microphones (SMT Books, 2002), White P – Basic Live Sound (Sanctuary Publishing, 2000), White P – Basic Mixing Techniques (SMT Books, 2002), White P – Basic Multitracking (SMT Books, 2002), White P – Studio Recording Basics A (Basic Mixing Techniques, Effects & Processors, Multitracking & Mixers) (Sanctuary, 2003).
- Ensure you read the Pass, Merit and Distinction criteria for each unit of study to familiarise yourself with the requirements to meet the higher success criteria.
- Complete some reading from your wider reading log, in addition ask Mr Timbers for supplementary pdf journals.

### Consolidation:

- Access the studio or the PA1 computers and peer appraise each other's work using the grading criteria – checking your understanding of key terminology.
- As your skills and confidence grow, your productions will become more complex. It is therefore very important to be organised. Your DAW provides numerous tools to help you stay on top of things, some of which it will take care of for you, and the others you will need to deal with as you progress. These are simple things, but they will really help your efficiency, save you time, perhaps stop you losing files and hopefully help you meet deadlines. (Make sure you create a new folder for each project, name tracks, colour-code and utilise markers).
- Discuss regularly with one of your peers within the class to consolidate your understanding of the work undertaken. In discussion, articulate how technology is used in the production of music. Explain how technology aids in live music performance: the synthesizer & other MIDI controllers.
- Act on, informal verbal feedback provided to help you access the higher grading criteria.
- Consider why and how has technology become inextricably linked to the creation of and recording of music, even for acoustic or traditional styles of music? What are the areas we will cover in this course? Why is it important for proper care and use of the technology within the workspace?

### Reflection:

- Enduring understandings, essential questions, knowledge and skills are woven into our curriculum overview. Look through the content studied and identify any 'big ideas' that you have grappled with during the unit. Formulate a list of essential questions of areas and skills you do not understand which can be answered as you proceed through the unit.
- Discover how technology is used in the production of music and fits invisibly into the recording and production of non-electronic and electronic music.
- Consider common methods of digital music composition and advantages and limitations of each.
- Identify advantages and disadvantages of a DAW and the use of midi and audio
- When working with samples and other musical content, consider why it is important to share digital music responsibly. Think about ways to share music responsibly, legally and ethically. How to articulate what intellectual property and its importance not only for musicians and the music business, but our entire form of economy. How to take a critical and informed stance on the use and commerce of digital music.