

# NATIONALS IN A NUTSHELL

The National Parent Forum of Scotland Summary of Music Technology National 4

MUSIC  
TECHNOLOGY  
EXPRESSIVE ARTS

NATIONAL  
4

3  
UNITS

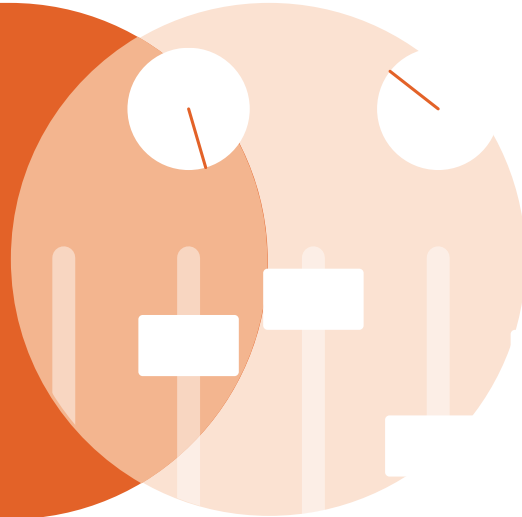
**MUSIC TECHNOLOGY SKILLS  
UNDERSTANDING 20<sup>TH</sup> AND 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY MUSIC  
MUSIC TECHNOLOGY IN CONTEXT**

+  
ADDED  
VALUE  
UNIT

**ADDED VALUE UNIT: MUSIC TECHNOLOGY ASSIGNMENT**

## What skills will my child develop?

- knowledge and understanding of music technology
- knowledge and understanding of a range of 20th and 21st century musical concepts, styles and genres
- the ability to use music technology hardware and software to capture and manipulate audio
- the ability to use music technology creatively in sound production in straightforward contexts
- listening skills
- the ability to reflect on personal work and on the work of others
- imaginative, creative and technical problem-solving skills
- skills and knowledge required by the music industry
- using skills in at least two contexts eg live performance, radio broadcast, film, TV themes, adverts and computer gaming
- skills in planning, organising, researching, communicating in a technological and musical context



## WHAT WILL MY CHILD EXPERIENCE DURING THE COURSE?

- Active and independent learning through self and peer evaluations, reflecting on learning, setting targets, evaluating progress, making independent decisions, responding to feedback
- A blend of classroom approaches including practical and experiential learning; using music technology and IT
- Collaborative learning: learners can work independently and with others eg using ICT to create a radio broadcast or a video; small group projects could be shared with other groups for reflection and evaluation
- Space for personalisation and choice: learners may choose the contexts in which to apply their skills and may choose their assignment with support from their teacher
- Applying learning
- Embedding literacy and numeracy skills: researching and presenting information; evaluating; communication.

## ASSESSMENT

- To gain National 4, learners must pass all Units
- Units are assessed as pass or fail by the school/centre (following SQA external quality assurance to meet national standards)
- Unit assessment (or 'evidence of learning') will demonstrate music technology skills across a wide range of possible contexts (creating sound effects, recording a musical performance, using mixing software to create sampled sounds, creating an advertising jingle). Evidence may take the form of screen shots, a blog, written text, voice memos, presentations
- The Added Value Unit (Assignment) requires learners to demonstrate their ability to develop and produce music using music technology.

## MUSIC TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION

We did a brilliant project for our assignment. Several of us play instruments and write songs, so we put a band together, wrote a song and then recorded it, one instrument and one vocal at a time. We then mixed it individually and came up with several entirely different versions of the song – you would hardly know it was the same song!

National 4 progresses onto National 5

For more detailed course information:

SQA: Music Technology National 4: [www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/56949.html](http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/56949.html)

Education Scotland: [www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nationalqualifications/index.asp](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nationalqualifications/index.asp)

Curriculum for Excellence Key Terms and Features Factfile:

[www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview\\_tcm4-665983.pdf](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview_tcm4-665983.pdf)



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