Diploma in Music Performance & Production
Project proposal template

In producing the project proposal, and in preparing for the project realisation, you should familiarise yourself with Unit 8 of the qualification.

In particular, you should understand the assessment and grading criteria which will be used to determine standards of achievement.

Unit 8 requires you to produce a project proposal of about 350 words, excluding the project action plan and bibliography. Project proposals should not be so succinct that they do not address the requirements listed below, nor should they be excessively long and unfocused.

Your project proposal should be sufficiently challenging to ensure you have the best possible chance of meeting the grading criteria.

Your project proposal should include:
- *Centre name and number*
- *Candidate name and number*
- *Project proposal title and date*
- *Main area of activity/ pathway*

The project proposal must be word processed and presented under the headings listed here:

Section 1 - Rationale
(Approximately 100 words)

This section provides you with an opportunity to reflect on, review and summarise your progress and achievements through the first seven units of the qualification, and the knowledge, skills and understanding you have acquired; What you know now, and what it means to you, compared with what you knew and could do before you started the course and how this has influenced your choice of pathway and your project proposal.

Section 2 – Project concept
(Approximately 200 words)

This section provides an opportunity for you to clearly explain the concept and aims of your project, the research and ideas that will support its development, what you anticipate producing, the levels and types of resources that you will need and an indication of the form in which you will complete and present your project realisation within the allocated timescale.

Section 3 - Evaluation
(Approximately 50 words)

This section provides an opportunity for you to explain how you will reflect on and evaluate your work, as both an ongoing activity and at the conclusion of the project.

You should describe how you intend to record your decision-making and how you will document changes to your ideas as the project progresses. The evaluation section should reference your stated aims and be reflective and analytical rather than a description of actions completed.

When working in collaboration with others, you should comment on how this may impact either positively or adversely and outline the steps you can take to minimise disruption to your own progress.

Additional requirements, not included in the 350word limit of the proposal:

Project action plan and timetable:
This section provides you with an opportunity to outline your planning and organisation over a period of weeks and the activities you will need to carry out in order to successfully complete your project in the agreed time frame. The more time and thought you give to planning your project, the more successful it is likely to be.

It is important that you consider how you will balance ambition, time and realism in the realisation of the project. You should also include what you are going to do, how you will do it and by when. Remember to include: time spent sourcing materials and other resources to conduct research, seek feedback from tutors and peers, and identify when you will carry out independent study.

Bibliography (Harvard Format):
This section provides an opportunity to record the initial research sources, both primary and secondary, that you intend to use.

Your sources of research should be as wide as possible and could include libraries, galleries, books, magazines, films, computer games, websites, blogs, social media, radio programmes, archive material etc. Where appropriate, you should use the Harvard system of referencing. The bibliography should be continuously updated as the project progresses.

Unit 8 Project Proposal

Candidate Name	Isobel McEvoy
Candidate Number	10663632
Pathway	Music performance and production
Project Title	To write, record, produce and publish a song.

Section 1: Rationale (approx. 100 words)

Since September I have gained lots of skills to do with music. In the first project I gained confidence and learnt how to perform in front of a crowd and how to work in a team. In the second project I learnt how to use music software (Abelton and Logic) to write and compose music. In the third project I earnt to record a song and mix it. I enjoyed all of these however I preferred working by myself over working in a band and I really enjoyed composing and writing music and so I would like to do that again and publish it to the world.

Section 2: Project Concept (approx. 200 words)

My project in more detail is to write a song, record and produce it and once I have done that, I will publish it onto streaming platforms. Whilst I am doing this, I will be posting my progress onto the Tiktok app to possibly get my videos shown to people who like music and so then possibly gain a following. I will need to research distribution services before publishing the song as I don't know which one will work best for me yet. The song will also be heavily inspired by Radiohead and so I will be researching how Radiohead write riffs and melodies and lyrics to be able to fit more into that genre. I will be creating artwork (album covers and a logo) for the project and also will be collaborating with others in their projects and asking others to help with my project. The song will include acoustic guitar, piano, bass guitar, drum kit and vocals however I will be getting someone from out of college to sing the lyrics for me as I am not a singer. I will also be evaluating my progress on digital space at the end of every week in order to know how to improve in the next week as I will have lots to do and I don't want to be stressed.

Section 3: Evaluation (approx. 50 words)

For my evaluations I will be documenting my work in weeks on digital space, I will upload my Tiktoks that I make in that week and then evaluate what went well, what went bad and how I can improve and what I need to do in the next week.

Proposed Research Sources and Bibliography (Harvard Format)

Larsen, N.J. (2022). *10 Life Changing Logic Pro X Tips*. [online] www.youtube.com. Available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9i_N7IG_nk [Accessed 28 Feb. 2023].

This is a video that I can use to take tips from to be able to use Logic quicker and easier and make my song better.

Banana Labs (2022). *How I write a RADIOHEAD style song (OK Computer)*. [online] www.youtube.com. Available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqOq3wANZ8k [Accessed 28 Feb. 2023].

This video will teach me techniques and tricks that will help me create a song like the band Radiohead make.

Stolpe, A. (2016). *How to Write Song Lyrics*. [online] Berklee Online Take Note. Available at: https://online.berklee.edu/takenote/how-to-write-song-lyrics/.

This will help me find ways to write good lyrics that are meaningful and powerful as I have not wrote lyrics before.

Wayne.wav (2022). *How to Record a Song in Logic pro X | The Easiest Way*. [online] www.youtube.com. Available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVwqVh9ISeo [Accessed 28 Feb. 2023].

This will help me understand how to use Logic and how to record a song more easily without making mistakes.

Wayne.wav (2022a). *How to Mix a Song | What is Mixing*. [online] www.youtube.com. Available at: https://youtu.be/1Rrq99XkvNM [Accessed 1 Mar. 2023].

Using this will help me understand more on how to mix a track and how to make it sound good.

Project Action Plan and Timetable

Week	Date Week Beginning	Activity / What you are intending to do - including independent study	Resources / What you will need to do it - including access to workshops
1	6th March	• **Work on melodies, basslines and drumbeats** • **Start working with singer for melody** • **Experiment with music to gain ideas** • **Research how Radiohead come up with melodies and lyrics** • **Upload progress to Tiktok**	• **Piano** • **Guitar** • **Bass** • **Phone for Tiktok**
2	13th March	• **Pick best melody and bassline** • **Start working on structure** • **Do more research on how to write lyrics** • **Start working on lyrics** • **Upload progress to Tiktok**	• **Piano** • **Guitar** • **Bass** • **Phone for Tiktok**
3	20th March ITALY	• **Finish structure with demo drums on Garageband or logic depending on what I have access to at time** • **Fully work on lyrics** • **Upload pregress to Tiktok**	• **Garageband/logic** • **Guitar** • **Phone for Tiktok**
4	27th March ITALY	• **Keep working on lyrics and hopefully finalize them** • **Keep experimenting with potential counter melodies** • **Upload progress to Tiktok**	• **Guitar** • **Phone for Tiktok**
5	17th April	• **Make drum beat on actual drums** • **Start working on artwork** • **Practice song with a singer** • **Upload progress to Tiktok**	• **Drumkit** • **Photoshop** • **Guitar** • **Phone for Tiktok**
6	24th April	• **Finalize song** • **Extra time to finish anything needed** • **Practice a lot** • **Work on artwork** • **Upload progress to Tiktok**	• **Practice room** • **Piano** • **Guitar** • **Bass** • **Drumkit** • **Photoshop** • **Phone for Tiktok**
7	1st May	• **Record the song** • **Take as many days needed to record** • **Start mixing** • **Finish artwork** • **Upload progress to Tiktok**	• **Recording studio** • **Practice room** • **Live room** • **Logic Pro** • **Photoshop** • **Phone for Tiktok**

8	8th May	• Finish the mixing • Publish the song • Promote the song on social media platforms (Tiktok)	• Logic • Phone for social media
9	15th May	• Evaluate	