



Music

Overview

The Music A level course is a broad, coherent course that engages students and allows them to pursue their own musical interests. Students experience all three main musical disciplines of performing, composing, and appraising, but have the option to specialise in performing or composing (which impacts on the proportion that each area contributes to their final grade).

Students will follow the Eduqas Music A level course (code A660PA or A660PB depending on option chosen in Year 13)

Performing: 25/35% of the total A Level (10 – 12 minutes)

Students are required to give a performance consisting of a minimum of two/three pieces. At least one of these pieces must be as a soloist. The other pieces may be either as a soloist or as part of an ensemble or a combination of both. One piece must reflect the musical characteristics of one area of study. At least one other piece must reflect the musical characteristics of one other, different area of study.

Composing: 25/35% of the total A Level

Students are required to prepare a portfolio of two compositions, one of which must reflect the musical language, techniques, and conventions associated with the Western Classical Tradition in response to a brief set by EDUQAS. The second composition is a free composition.

Appraising: 40% of the total A Level (2 hour 15 minute examination)

This examination will assess knowledge and understanding of music through three areas of study, one compulsory unit and two further contrasting areas of study.

Compulsory unit: The Western Classical Tradition (The Development of the Symphony 1750-1900).

Choose one from: Rock and Pop, Musical Theatre, or Jazz.

And choose one from: Into The Twentieth Century, or Into The Twenty-first Century.

Expectations

To prepare for classroom learning and the wider practical nature of music, students will be expected to listen to a wide range of music, not only music from the set works; regularly practice and take part in ensemble playing in school and in their own time; and undertake independent background research on composers and specific areas of music. Students will be expected to use independent study time to practice and compose.

Extra-Curricular Activities/Independent Learning Opportunities

The Music department is a very busy, exciting place to study. Students will be expected to take part in regular extra-curricular school activities, demonstrate leadership in arranging recitals and performances with other students, and participate in arranged visits to concert halls, theatres, and local music events.

Entry Requirement: There are no additional entry requirements to those mentioned in the Sixth Form Prospectus. However, students should have a grade 5 pass at GCSE Music and a pass at Grade 5 ABRSM (or equivalent) on an instrument or voice