

Why study Music?

If you enjoy performing, composing or listening to music then this is the GCSE for you. You will utilise many different skills and explore a wide range of musical styles in various different ways. If you play a musical instrument or enjoy singing, you will get a much deeper understanding of the music that you are performing through learning about the composer and the context of the composition, as well as through analysing the music itself. You will also get the chance to compose and perform music in a variety of styles, both on your own and in groups.



What will I study?

The course is split into the three main areas of composing, performing, and listening and appraising. You will study eight set works and related music from four areas of study: instrumental music 1700-1820, vocal music, music for stage and screen, and fusions. In your lessons you will explore these areas of study through listening and analysing, composing and performing.



How will Music benefit me?

Music is highly regarded as an academic subject as students who have studied it are thought to have developed a range of transferable skills. These include creative skills, presentation skills, analytical skills, essay-writing skills, collaborative and leadership skills, as well as resilience, spiritual and cultural awareness and the ability to be well-organised and manage a range of tasks. It can also, in the long term, lead to an enormous range of professions, including performing, musical directing, composing, transcription and editing, arranging, music therapy, artist and event management, and music production.

ASSESSMENT

Composition – 30%

You will compose two pieces as coursework, with a total duration of three minutes.

Performance – 30%

One solo performance and one ensemble performance, both recorded in Year 11.

Final examination – 40%

This examination (lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes) will include listening and appraising questions based on your eight set works and related music.