

GCSE Performing Arts - Music

“Music gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything” Plato.

Music at KS4 is an exciting and popular option to take. Students will utilise all of the performance and composition skills they have learned at KS3.

Outline of the course

Music by its very nature can excite and absorb us, whether we are composing, performing or listening. GCSE Music consists of three key areas; these are composing, performing and listening.



During their studies, students will listen to and learn about lots of different styles of music such as Film music, Pop Music, Baroque, Classical and Romantic Music and music from the Musicals. In addition to this, students will produce two computer based compositions from differing areas of study and perform at least two pieces of music, one solo and one ensemble.

Students must be committed to becoming an established musician (grade 3 standard) by the time performances are recorded in Year 11. This can be on any instrument of your choice including voice.

Assessment

Performance — Component 1 - 30%

- Students must record 1 solo and 1 ensemble (1 minute), they can then record in either format over 4 minutes
- Performances must be completed in year 2
- Performances must be to grade 3 standard (Including voice)



Composition — Component 2- 30%

- Candidates complete 2 compositions
- 1 set to a brief set by the board that relates to the 4 areas of study
- 1 free composition
- Both pieces must be 3 minutes in length
- Compositions can be completed in Year 1 or 2

Appraising — Component 3 - 40%

- Applying the Elements of Music to a variety of different styles of music
- 1 hour 15 minute exam.

Why study Music?

- Practical based: you make music.
- Builds confidence and transferable skills.
- Working in a group and on your own.
- Learn specific instrument skills.
- Compose new exciting music.
- Use your imagination and creativity.



For more information about this subject and the course, please contact: Mr M Willson