

Course Description

Music A Level

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Component 1: Performing

Option A (35%): A performance consisting of a minimum of three pieces. At least one of these pieces must be as a soloist. One piece must reflect the musical characteristics of one area of study. At least one other piece of music reflect the musical characteristics of a different area of study.

Option B (25%): A performance consisting of a minimum of two pieces 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.

Component 2: Composing

Option A (25%): Two compositions, one of which must reflect the musical techniques and conventions associated with the Western Classical Tradition and be in response to a brief set by Eduqas. The second composition is a free composition.

Option B (35%): Three compositions, one of which must reflect the musical techniques and conventions associated with the Western Classical Tradition and be in response to a brief set by Eduqas. The second composition must reflect the musical characteristics of one different area of study, while the third composition is a free composition.

Component 3: Appraising (40%)

You will study music from a range of genres as set out below. Your knowledge is assessed in an examination of 2 hours and 15 minutes in which there will be a variety of questions; set work analysis with a score; extended responses on wider context, unprepared extracts of music with and without a score; comparison questions.

Area of Study A: The Western Classical Tradition (The Development of the Symphony 1750-1900) which includes a detailed analysis – Symphony No. 104 in D major, ‘London’ by Haydn and general study of Symphony No. 4 in A major, ‘Italian’ by Mendelssohn.

A choice of one area of study from: AoS B Rock and Pop, AoS C Musical Theatre or AoS D Jazz. This will be determined in consultation with the cohort.

Area of Study E: Into the Twentieth Century including two set works: Trio for Oboe, Bassoon and Piano, Movement II by Poulenc and Three Nocturnes, Number 1, Nuages by Debussy.

Entry Criteria

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Music. Performance audition and music theory test will be used as a replacement for GCSE Music if not studied at KS4.