



SUBJECT: GCSE Music

YEAR: 10

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: Mr Andrews

GROUPING POLICY: Mixed ability in option blocks

EXAM BOARD: WJEC Eduqas

ASSESSMENT: 60% Internally Assessed, 40% Externally Assessed.

COURSE CONTENT

Link to Specification:

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/media/by5boopf/eduqas-gcse-music-spec-from-2016-d.pdf>

Curriculum Intent

The WJEC Eduqas GCSE in Music offers a broad and coherent course of study which encourages learners to engage actively in three skills: performing, composing and appraisal. An integrated approach to the three skills is encouraged through each area of study and serves to highlight the importance of the relationship between composer, performer and audience.

What will my child learn?

This specification enables learners to develop knowledge and understanding of music through four interrelated areas of study:

Area of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices

Area of study 2: Music for Ensemble

Area of study 3: Film Music

Area of study 4: Popular Music

Knowledge and understanding of each area of study above is assessed explicitly in the form of an external listening examination in year 11. Students are also required to compose and perform music using conventions, styles or idioms linked to at least one area of study above. They may choose the same or different areas of study for additional composition and performance whilst also having the opportunity to follow their own musical interests.

What will homework look like?

Homework will frequently take the form of listening exercises and research into musical forms and devices to support the knowledge and understanding of each area of study. Additionally, students may be asked to undertake practical work in the form of rehearsals on their instrument or development of their compositions.

What enrichment opportunities are available?

- Students will be encouraged to participate in any of the extended curricular opportunities at Rednock
- Trip to Liverpool: The Beatles experience
- Concerts in the local community
- Workshops conducted by visiting professional musicians



ASSESSMENT

How will my child's work be assessed?

Students have to complete 2 internally assessed units.

Component 1: Performing (30%)

Learners may perform at any time during the academic year in which the assessment is to be taken i.e. year 11. Learners do not have to perform all pieces on the same day. The performance must be recorded with the teacher present, so that the work can be authenticated. In all performances, learners will be expected to display:

- technical control
- expression and appropriate interpretation
- accuracy of rhythm and pitch
- appropriate pace and fluency
- effective use of dynamics
- stylistic awareness
- empathy (in ensemble playing)

Component 2: Composing (30%)

Learners must submit two compositions with a total playing time of between 3-6 minutes.

1. A composition which responds to a brief set by WJEC.

The brief will be released during the first week of September in the academic year in which the assessment is to be taken i.e. year 11. Learners select one from a choice of four briefs, each related to a different area of study:

Area of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices

Area of study 2: Music for Ensemble

Area of study 3: Film Music

Area of study 4: Popular Music.

2. A free composition. Learners will compose a piece of music in a style of their own choice.

Learners will set their own brief for this composition. The brief itself is not assessed; however, learners are assessed on their musical response to the brief.

Composition briefs, both those set by WJEC and those set by the learner, will always provide details of the audience or occasion plus additional musical details.

Component 3: Appraising (40%)

External written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes (approximately)

This examination will assess knowledge and understanding of music through the following four areas of study above. Students will develop knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

How can I support my child in this subject?

A student opting for this course should have a good level of ability, aptitude, motivation and attendance, as well as an interest in the music related industries.

- Access to ICT for independent research and music software
- Check that homework is being completed including instrumental practice
- Support students via attending school concerts

How can I support my child with exams?

- Instrumental lessons with a peripatetic teacher
- Encourage attendance at exam revision sessions in year 11
- Encourage use of the electronic resources that will be made available via the Google Classroom/Drive