



A Level Music Transition Pack 2025

Deadline;

This work is expected to be completed by the end of the first week of September.

EDUQAS A LEVEL MUSIC

There are four units of study that we will cover over the two years:

Component 1: Performing

Component 2: Composing

Component 3: Appraising

To prepare for the start of the course the transition work will help you make the 'step up' from GCSE to A Level and will cover elements of the actual learning aims for the units you are studying on the course.

Task 1 Component 1: Performing

You will be required to perform a wide range of music to a higher standard than during the GCSE course. Using the summer months to practice your main/second instrument on a regular basis is essential to your enjoyment and potential for success. Set yourself realistic and personal goals ensuring that you explore different styles of music e.g. not just classical or rock.

The hours of technical practice you put in before September will make a difference. Aim for an improved tone quality, listen carefully to your tuning/intonation, have a go at improvising but most importantly, always try to enjoy your practice sessions. If you really want to challenge yourself, create a video diary to see how much you improve on a particular piece. Have a couple of grade 5/6 solo pieces ready to rehearse from September.

Task 2 Component 2: Composing

Create a power-point presentation for a typical year 12 student starting the A Level course to demonstrate and explain the signs used in various examples of notated music.

Include the following:

- Knowledge of treble and bass clef notation on manuscript
- Major & Minor scales (flats and sharps)
- One alternative method of notation e.g. guitar tab or music for drum-kit
- Note lengths to explain how rhythms are written
- Basic tempo, dynamic and expressive markings (including Italian terms)

Task 3: Appraising

Western Classical tradition

Listen to the 2 Eduqas set works and follow the music in the scores provided below. Reading a full symphonic score takes practice and is a skill worth developing for the course in general.

Symphony No. 104 in D major, 'London': Haydn

Movements 1 & 2

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xO4SKSuO0SHLgrgNVxVqz17KeCxQ7gIC/view?usp=drive_link

Movements 3 & 4

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CH6C9fWwID37j0AFzDmgoOV36AcGnA1A/view?usp=drive_link

Symphony No. 4 in A major, 'Italian': Mendelssohn

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TmZszalmK0YzuxfjWqzAy2mx4ORUTz-j/view?usp=drive_link

Popular Music

Write an article for MOJO magazine that analyses popular music from a wide range of genres (4 min) identifying musical elements and devices that define each style. Use wide ranging and appropriate genres to satisfy the typical MOJO reader adopting a style of writing that is informative and familiar. Aim to explain each musical component and the contribution made to the genre from which it is taken. You may cross reference to other genres to support your discussion.

Tip: Use picture/photos of musicians and bands who represent a particular style with reference to suggested albums and songs to inform the reader. Purchase a copy of MOJO if you can to get a feel for the style of journalism to be attempting to use

Finally, congratulations on choosing to study Music to A level. This is an important and special time in your musical development so make the most of your study time and have some fun along the way.

Mr J. Andrews – Head of Music

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