

# MUSIC

# A LEVEL

EDEXCEL

Entry Requirements	At least GCSE Grade 5 or a performance audition to at least Grade 4/5 standard
Head of Department or Course Contact	Mr J Bard
Contact E-Mail Address	<a href="mailto:jbard@stedmunds.org">jbard@stedmunds.org</a>

## **Brief introduction to subject:**

Students choose Music 'A' level in order to further refine their practical musicianship, their knowledge of musical cultures and historical context, their skills as composer and arranger as well as analytical skills. They develop performing skills in solo and ensemble situations, learn about how harmony is used in certain, specified genres, compose their own music in response to a brief and refine analytical skills through music listening tasks.

*Music is taught in the consortium and the course content below is intended as a guide only. Please contact Mr Bard for more information.*

## **Progression to Career/ University Courses:**

Advanced Level Music is an ideal preparation for undergraduate study of the subject at a higher level as well as an introduction to other performing arts based courses. It is also a useful second or third choice for non-specialists wishing to enrich their Advanced level studies with an arts subject. The AS units alone provide a useful and enriching year of study for those wishing to conclude their studies at that point.

## **Key Points:**

Performing Music is essentially a social activity; students opting for the subject at this level are usually active musicians, already performing regularly as part of a recognised ensemble - either at school or in the community.

Students choosing the subject should be prepared to spend extra time, in addition to lesson time, working on rehearsals and recording of work.

<b>Year 12</b>		
<b><u>Performing 8MU0/01</u></b>	<b><u>Composing 8MU0/02</u></b>	<b><u>Appraising 8MU0/03</u></b>
<p>A public performance of one or more pieces, performed as a recital. ● Performance can be playing or singing solo, in an ensemble, improvising, or realising music using music technology.</p> <p>● The total performance time across all pieces must be a minimum of 6 minutes.</p>	<p>Total of two compositions, one to a brief set by Pearson and one either free composition or also to a brief. ● Total time across both submissions must be a minimum of four minutes and 30 seconds.</p>	<p>Knowledge and understanding of musical elements, contexts and language.</p> <p>● Application of knowledge through the context of six areas of study, each with two set works. Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Music for Film, Popular Music and Jazz, Fusions, New Directions.</p> <p>● Application of knowledge to unfamiliar works</p>
<p><b><u>Non-examined assessment:</u></b> Externally assessed 30% of the qualification 60 marks</p>	<p><b><u>Non-examined assessment:</u></b> Externally assessed 30% of the qualification 60 marks</p>	<p><b><u>Written examination:</u></b> 90 minutes 40% of the qualification 80 marks</p>
<b>Year 13</b>		
<b><u>Performing 9MU0/01</u></b>	<b><u>Composing 9MU0/02</u></b>	<b><u>Appraising 9MU0/03</u></b>
<p>A public performance of one or more pieces, performed as a recital. ● Performance can be playing or singing solo, in an ensemble, improvising, or realising music using music technology.</p> <p>● The total performance time across all pieces must be a minimum of 8 minutes.</p>	<p>Total of two compositions, one to a brief set by Pearson and one either free composition or also to a brief. ● One composition must be from either a list of briefs related to the areas of study, or a free composition, carrying 40 marks for this component. This composition must be at least 4 minutes in duration.</p> <p>● One composition must be from a list of briefs assessing compositional technique</p>	<p>Knowledge and understanding of musical elements, contexts and language.</p> <p>● Application of knowledge through the context of six areas of study, each with three set works. Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Music for Film, Popular Music and Jazz, Fusions, New Directions.</p> <p>● Application of knowledge to unfamiliar works.</p>
<p><b><u>Non-examined assessment:</u></b> Externally assessed 30% of the qualification 60 marks</p>	<p><b><u>Non-examined assessment:</u></b> Externally assessed 30% of the qualification 60 marks</p>	<p><b><u>Written examination:</u></b> 2 hours 40% of the qualification 100 marks</p>