

# A Level Music



## ➤ Introduction

This course is designed for students who are passionate about music and wish to develop their skills in performance, composition, and musical analysis. The AQA specification offers a balanced approach that combines practical music-making with academic study, allowing you to explore a wide range of styles, genres, and historical contexts.

## ➤ What will I learn?

You will:

Deepen your understanding of musical elements, harmony, and form.

Explore music from the Western classical tradition to popular music, jazz, and film music.

Improve your skills as a performer and composer.

Develop analytical skills by studying set works and applying this knowledge to unfamiliar pieces.

Gain a respected qualification that supports further study in music, performance, or related creative industries.

### Component 1: Appraising Music

Study of three areas:

- Western Classical Tradition (1650–1910) (compulsory)

Two additional areas from:

- Pop music
- Music for media
- Music for theatre
- Jazz
- Contemporary traditional music
- Art music since 1910

Analysis of set works and unfamiliar pieces.

### Component 2: Performance

- 10 minute solo or ensemble recital

### Component 3: Composition

Two compositions:

- One to a brief set by AQA
- One free composition

Total time: minimum 4½ minutes

## ➤ Course Information

Course Code - 7272

Examination Board - AQA

## ➤ How will I be assessed?

Component	Type	Weight
Appraising	Exam	40%
Performance	10 minute solo or ensemble recital	35%
Composition	NEA - 2 x Compositions	25%

Key Information:

- Component 1 Appraising music is an externally moderated written exam.
- Component 2 Performance and Component 3 Composition is marked internally then externally moderated.

## ➤ Opportunities

We provide multiple performance opportunities throughout the year including school concerts, performances within the community, and our yearly European Music Tour. We regularly have guest speakers and workshops provided by excellent external providers as well as go on trips such as this year's trip to Abbey Road Studios.

## ➤ Other subjects?

Music Technology - Great for production, sound engineering, or composition pathways.

English Literature - Helps with essay writing and analytical skills needed in musicology

History - Useful for understanding historical context in music

## ➤ Future Careers

Music opens doors to Music degrees (performance, composition, musicology, production) and Conservatoire training. Careers in education, sound engineering, music therapy, journalism and beyond.