

Exam Board: AQA

Course Overview

The course covers performing, composing, listening, and appraising.

Course Breakdown

- Performance can be on any instrument or voice. A piece or song of about grade 4/5 standard would gain the top grade if performed well. (Any style of music is acceptable.) Ongoing practice is expected as homework.
- Composing techniques are explored in Year 10.
- Part of each lesson is used to develop listening skills and knowledge through study of the following areas of Music- Western Classical Music, Popular Music and World and Traditional Music
- This is a highly practical course where the majority of time will be spent performing and composing.

Assessment

Internal: Solo and Ensemble performance 30%, Composition 30%

External: Listening Exam 40%

Coursework Requirements

- First composition completed by December of Year 11.
- One solo performance recorded by December of Year 11.
- One ensemble performance recorded by April of Year 11.
- Second composition completed by April of Year 11.
- Listening exam taken in May of Year 11.

Qualities needed for success in the course:

- Ability to play an instrument or sing. (It is possible to be a near beginner and still pass the GCSE but be prepared to work hard and practise).
- A passion for music.
- Lessons on the students' own instrument or voice would be an advantage. Some lessons are available at school.

The College will subsidise lessons for students who are categorised as Pupil Premium.

- Motivation and a commitment to practising.
- Ability to work independently.
- (Ability to read music is not necessary.)

Possible paths in Post 16:

A level Music/A Level Performing Arts/BTEC Music Performing/BTEC Music Composing.

