

Name of Course	GCSE Music
Examination Board	Eduqas

What is GCSE Music all about?

The Music GCSE will give you the opportunity to perform, compose and study a wide range of beautiful and interesting music from different cultures, times and genres with other like-minded students.

The course is for all aspiring musicians. If you already play an instrument or sing, you can develop your skills further. If you don't already play an instrument or sing, you can take the opportunity to learn new skills. If you enjoy writing your own music or songs, you can use this ability and experience towards your GCSE. If you love listening to music, and can spot the details, you have already developed some of the skills you need and this will be your opportunity to develop this aspect of musicianship further. So, in short, if you are a creative person who wants to learn to make music, this course will give you that chance.

According to the World Economic Forum, creativity is one of the most important and in-demand skills at work. World business leaders voted creativity as the most important workplace skill to help their businesses survive and grow. This means that the study of creative subjects, like Music, is becoming even more important and relevant to young people in giving you the chance to succeed – whatever your ambitions. At the same time, you will find opportunities to develop and improve your personal wellbeing, have fun learning and be part of a wider community.

What skills will I learn?

Your practical skills of composing music and performing will be refined and will demonstrate creativity, reflection and resilience, as well as developing confidence and presentation skills. Studying music will give you opportunities for higher order thinking, by considering ideas which go beyond language. This is great brain-training which will help you in other areas too. You will gain a deep understanding of a number of transferable skills and practice applying these to new situations, developing analytical and problem solving skills.

What will I do in Music?

The GCSE Music course has three components: Performing, Composing and Appraising (Listening).

Performing (playing music) on your own and in a group. This could be in any style, on any instrument or voice; singing, band and orchestral instruments. Exploring how great pieces of music were put together, then when you have learnt some of the techniques, composing your own music. This could involve using computer software, writing for a specific purpose or writing songs. Listening to a variety of music and learning how to identify the facts about what you hear. You will already have heard about the elements of music in your Key Stage 3 lessons. At GCSE you focus on how these are used for different purposes. The following chart shows you a summary of what you will complete.

How will I be assessed?

Three elements: Coursework = 60% and Exam = 40 %

1. Performing 30% (Teacher assessed)

You will play 2 pieces, lasting a total of 4-6 minutes, preparing in year 10 and recorded in year 11. One must be an ensemble (group piece) and one must be a solo and you can use any instrument or voice.

2. Composing 30% (Teacher assessed)

You will write two pieces of music: one in response to a brief and one free composition in any style..

3. Component 3 Appraising 40% (Externally assessed exam)

This is a listening examination made up of 8 questions, 2 on each area of study:

AoS 1 Musical Forms and Devices

AoS2 Music for Ensemble

AoS 3 Film Music

AoS 4 Popular Music

Particular issues for this subject

Many of you will already be having instrumental or vocal lessons and we recommend that you continue with these. Don't worry if you have not yet started lessons, but do speak to your Music Teacher as soon as possible to discuss your options to support your practical learning. We strongly encourage all GCSE musicians to join one of the school music ensembles to further support instrumental and vocal work.

Useful Websites etc.

Applying for instrumental and vocal lessons at Oathall

Lessons take place during the school day, information can be found by clicking on this [link](#).

Eduqas Website <https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/music/gcse/>

Resources - links to the two networks

Badinerie, JS Bach <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kl6R4Ui9blc>

Africa - Toto (Set work 1) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTQbiNvZqaY>