

Music GCSE

GCSE Music is an interesting subject with academic and practical traits, allowing you to extend and develop your musical interests and skills. Studying music is not only for students who wish to pursue a life in the music industry, it is a creative and challenging subject which is recognised to prepare individuals for further study and a wide range of careers.

The most important requirements for taking Music at GCSE is a passion for the subject and a commitment to practise an instrument/voice regularly. In addition to performance, you will learn to compose original ideas (with access to music technology); explore music of different styles and cultures; and develop your analytical approach to music.

Aims of the Course

GCSE Music aims to develop musical skill, knowledge and understanding through **Listening, Performing and Composing.**

You will study a wide range of music from the following areas of study: Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Music for Stage and Screen and Fusions. You will learn to recognise different instruments, say specific things about the way they are used and about structures and techniques that are used to compose the music they play. Your final listening examination will contain questions based on Units from the four Areas of Study.

It is expected that you will want to share your performance skills with others and do so regularly throughout the two years of the course. It is expected that students studying GCSE Music will have regular tuition in their first instrument/voice. A solo performance and an ensemble performance will be submitted at the end of the course.

Composition is a skill you will continue to develop throughout the course. Using notation software such as Sibelius, or music technology including GarageBand or Logic, you will explore and develop original ideas based on your understanding of the set works studied. This is your opportunity to compose in your own style and bring some creative flair to lessons! Two individual compositions will be submitted for assessment at the end of the course.



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