

A Level Music (AQA)

Minimum course entry requirement

At least grade B in GCSE Music, Grade 5 theory standard **plus** at least grade 5 ABRSM performance standard.

For continuation to Year 13 a minimum entry grade D in Year 12 Music **plus** at least grade 6 ABRSM performance standard.

Course content

Year 12

The AS syllabus content is taught as three modules;

Unit 1: Appraising Music – Listening, Analysis and Contextual Understanding.

This component provides an appropriate focus for students to appraise music and develop and demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language. The music to be studied is 'The Baroque Solo Concerto', 'The Operas of Mozart' and 'Jazz'.

Unit 2: Performance

Students will record a programme of solo and/or ensemble repertoire lasting between 6 and 8 minutes in which they will demonstrate an understanding of context including, the chosen style or genre being performed and the composer's purpose and intention.

Unit 3: Composition

Students will write two compositions which must last between 4½ and 6 minutes. One will be in response to an externally set brief and the other a free composition.

Year 13

The A2 syllabus content is taught as three modules;

Unit 4: Appraising Music – Listening, Analysis and Contextual Understanding.

This component provides an appropriate focus for students to appraise music and develop and demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language. The music studied in Year 12 is continued in greater depth, and in Year 13, students will also study 'The Piano Music of Chopin, Brahms and Grieg' and 'Art Music from 1910'.

Unit 5: Performance

Students will record a programme of solo and/ or ensemble music between 10 and 12 minutes in which they will demonstrate an understanding of context including, the chosen style or genre being performed and the composer's purpose and intention.

Unit 6: Composition

Students will write two compositions which must last between 4½ and 6 minutes. One will be in response to an externally set brief and the other a free composition.

Assessment

Year 12

Unit 1: Written/ Listening Examination. (40% of the total AS marks)

Unit 2: Externally Assessed Coursework. (30% of the total AS marks)

Unit 3: Internally Assessed Coursework. (30% of the total AS marks)

Year 13

Unit 4: Written/ Listening Examination. (40% of A Level marks)

Unit 5: Externally Assessed Coursework. (35% of total A Level marks)

Unit 6: Externally Assessed Coursework. (25% of the total A Level marks)