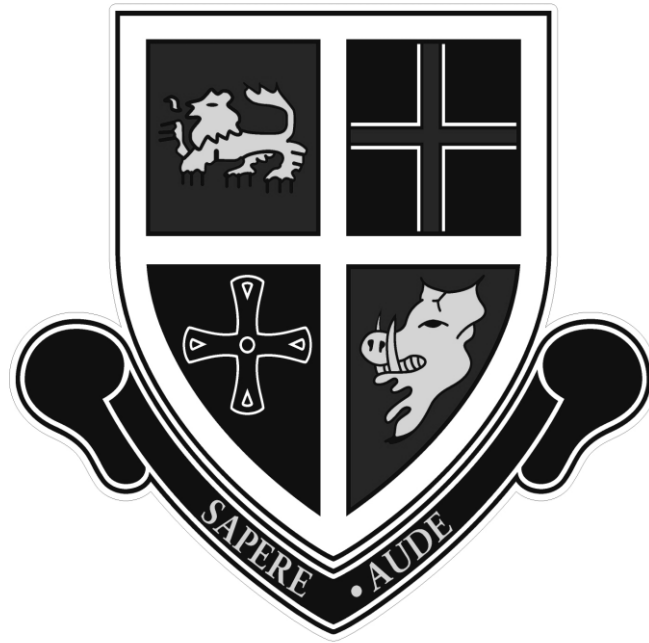


**DURHAM JOHNSTON SCHOOL
MUSIC DEPARTMENT**



**GCSE
MUSIC
From Sept 2017**

The Course

The Edexcel GCSE in Music has a clear structure and is designed to allow candidates to study Music through the integration of performing, composing and listening with opportunities to use music technology. The areas of study cover a wide range of Music, including; classical, world and popular.

Course Requirements

Successful candidates will;

- Be having regular instrumental tuition
- Be at least grade 4 standard on an instrument/voice and about grade 3 standard on theory at the start of the course
- Practise regularly
- Be an active musician

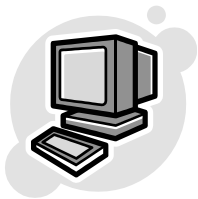
Examination Board: Edexcel

In GCSE music you will learn how to improve your performing skills and through work in composition you will gain an insight into how music is constructed from initial ideas to the finished product. You will also learn how to analyse music in a variety of styles, through both score analysis and listening, and discover the social context in which music has been composed over the last 400 years.

Component 1: Performing (30%)



Students produce at least one solo and at least one ensemble performance. Performances may be on any instrument and in any style, but both combined must be in excess of 4 minutes and the standard of performance needed to achieve a secure mark in this component is between grade 3 and 4. *This part of the course is marked by the teacher and moderated by Edexcel.*



Component 2: Composing (30%)

Students produce two compositions, one which responds to a brief set by the exam board and a second that is 'free' i.e. does not respond to an external brief. The combined length of the two pieces of music is a minimum of three minutes and each piece must be at least one minute long. In year 10, students will explore various approaches to composition and the composition briefs, which will be based on audience and/ or occasion, will be released at the start of year 11. *This part of the course is marked by the teacher and moderated by Edexcel.*



Component 3: Appraising (40%)

At the end of the course students will take a 1 hour 45 minutes examination which will assess their understanding of music from four areas of study, each of which has two set works, in a variety of ways. The examination will contain short listening questions, extended prose answers and students will also be expected to respond to unfamiliar music. *The paper is marked externally by Edexcel examiners.*

Instrumental Music 1700-1820

- ❖ J S Bach: 3rd Movement from Brandenburg Concerto no. 5 in D major
- ❖ L van Beethoven: 1st Movement from Piano Sonata no. 8 in C minor 'Pathétique'

Vocal Music

- ❖ H Purcell: Music for a While
- ❖ Queen: Killer Queen (from the album 'Sheer Heart Attack')

Music for Stage and Screen

- ❖ S Schwartz: Defying Gravity (from the album of the cast recording of Wicked)
- ❖ J Williams: Main title/rebel blockade runner (from the soundtrack to Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope)

Fusions

- ❖ Afro Celt Sound System: Release (from the album 'Volume 2: Release')
- ❖ Esperanza Spalding: Samba Em Preludio (from the album 'Esperanza')