



# KS4 Guided Options





# GCSE Music- Exam Board AQA

"Music expresses that which cannot be said, and on which it is impossible to be silent." - Victor Hugo



# What would I be doing in GCSE Music?

Each lesson is different – you could be listening to reggae songs, writing your own film music, or practising songs in a band!

The course is split into 3 sections:

PERFORMING  
(30%)

COMPOSING  
(30%)

EXAM  
(40%)



# PERFORMING (30%)

- Play one piece of music on your own and one in a group.



- The two pieces should add up to at least 4 minutes in total.
- Take several attempts to get your performance right!
- COURSEWORK recorded in Y11 (November and March)



# COMPOSING (30%)

- Write 2 pieces of music
- over 2 years.



- Use the latest **technology** to write and even record your songs.
- Together, the songs should last at least 3 minutes in total.
- Coursework started in Y10 and completed by March of Year 11.

# EXAM (40%)

- In Section A, you listen to clips of music and answer questions about them.



- In Section B, you answer questions about musical styles and pieces you have studied in lessons.

- We will be focusing on Mozart and Paul Simon in 2023- 25.
- This is your only FINAL written exam taken at the end of Y11.

# Section A of Exam (68 marks)

**There are four areas of study:**

- Western classical tradition 1650–1910
- Popular music
- Traditional music
- Western classical tradition since 1910.

**You study these four areas but answer questions generally on unfamiliar pieces (but you will know the styles).**



0 1

**Area of study 1: Western Classical Tradition 1650–1910**

You will hear **two** excerpts.

**Excerpt A**

This excerpt will be played **four** times.

You may find it helpful to tick a box each time you hear the excerpt.

☐☐☐☐

0 1 . 1

Name **one** of the instruments playing at the beginning of this excerpt.

[1 mark]

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0 1 . 2

What is the tonality of this excerpt?

[1 mark]

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0 1 . 3

What is the time signature of this excerpt?

[1 mark]

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0 1 . 4

Which of the following best describes the tempo of this excerpt?

[1 mark]

Circle your answer.

**allegretto**

**andante**

**largo**

**presto**



# Section B of Exam (28 marks)

## **Mozart Clarinet Concerto in A major**

K. 622, 3rd movement, Rondo

## **Paul Simon: Graceland album** – the following tracks:

- *Graceland*
- *Diamonds on the Soles of Her Shoes*
- *You Can Call Me Al*

**- 3 short mark questions and 1 long mark question for each**

# I can't take GCSE Music because...

I don't have lessons...

As long as you already have skills on an instrument, it's not too late to start lessons now. **YOU MUST BE HAVING INSTRUMENTAL/ VOCAL LESSONS TO TAKE GCSE MUSIC** (either via school or privately)

It doesn't fit my future career...

GCSE Music gives you transferable skills that will prepare you for any career, and it shows future employers your creative side!

I didn't enjoy Music in Key Stage 3...

GCSE Music is very different – smaller class sizes, more interesting tasks and one-to-one support!

I may need other subjects on my CV...

You'll usually achieve better in subjects you enjoy...



**MUSIC  
MARK**

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**PROUD TO BE A  
MUSIC MARK  
SCHOOL**

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**2022 - 2023**

# Higher Education

Recent destinations to read Music or Music Technology at University have been:-

- The University of Cambridge
- LIPA
- The University of Manchester
- The University of Sheffield
- Huddersfield University
- The University of Liverpool

# Careers in Music

Performer  
Composer  
Musicologist  
Music Journalist  
Primary School Teacher  
Secondary School Teacher  
Lecturer  
Session Musician  
Blogger  
Music PR  
Music Publisher  
Musical Director  
Conductor  
Tour Manager

Songwriter  
Film Composer  
Live Sound Specialist  
Audio Technician  
Foley Artist  
Radio Producer  
Game Audio Technician  
Composer in Residence  
Stage Manager  
Website Designer  
Technical Crew  
Radio Producer  
Press Agent  
Music Store Manager

Music Producer  
Audio Engineer  
Recording Engineer  
Mastering Engineer  
Audio Editor  
Audio Systems Engineer  
Audio Systems Designer  
Software Designer  
DJ Sound Designer  
Sonic Artist  
Rights Manager  
Product Licensor  
Instrument Manufacture  
Concert Promoter