



MUSIC

Music at Kirkham Grammar School is taught in small groups with a strong emphasis being placed on practical work.

Pupils are encouraged to develop their own particular interests and skills not only in timetabled periods but also by participating in concerts and musical activities in and out of school.

THE COURSE

The course consists of three components: Appraising Music
 Performance
 Composition

Component 1: Appraising Music

Student must listen, analyse and contextualise using excerpts of music from classical, contemporary, jazz, pop and theatre, leading to an examination paper with listening and written questions. 40% of A-level mark.

Component 2: Performance

A performance, solo and/or ensemble lasting 10-12 minutes. A wide choice is given plus the option of a technology-based ensemble. 35% of A-level mark.

Component 3: Composition

This is a coursework unit, and is a response to a brief and a free composition. Each should last 4½-6 minutes. 25% of A-level mark.

Pupils who decide to study Music at A-level should have passed GCSE Music with at least a Grade B or have passed Associated Board Grade VI Practical examination.

CAREERS

A-level Music is a requirement for all music courses at university or music conservatoires and is a well-respected qualification in itself. It can also be combined effectively with both science and arts subjects and is also accepted by universities as an academic qualification to read other subjects. Pathways into the main industry are many and varied. You could train as a professional musician, compose, sing at the Royal Opera House, become a singer songwriter for movie soundtracks, a music therapist, a session musician, go into music production or music technology and much more.