

**Subject: Music**

**Qualification: GCSE**

**Exam Board: Edexcel**

**Specification Code: MU01**



### **Who is the course for?**



GCSE music is a varied and exciting option to take. There are a wide range of activities tied up with the subject; performing, composing and learning about a wide range of musical styles.

This is a course for students who have a passion for music and are interested in developing their skills in composition, musical awareness and performance. You either need to be taking private lessons on your instrument or voice and be around or above a grade 3 standard. If you are unsure about this our Music teachers will advise you. You should also be required to participate in various extracurricular musical activities at school.

### **What will I learn?**

- Performing solo and in a group.
- Composing in various styles.
- Exploring and analysing the following styles:
  - Vocal Music
  - Instrumental Music
  - Music for Stage and Screen
  - Fusions

Set works studied include *Defying Gravity*, *Wicked*, and *Killer Queen*, Queen.

There will be the opportunity each year to experience these styles in performance. This includes trips to the West End and to the London Symphony Orchestra.

### **How will I be assessed?**



#### **Performance element - 30% of the GCSE.**

Two performances (solo and ensemble) are carried out during the second year of the course. If you are a multi-instrumentalist, you will have the option to perform on both. (Totalling to 4 minutes).

#### **Composition element - 30% of the GCSE.**

Coursework consists of two pieces for the final assessment. One based on a brief from the examination board and the other is a 'free' composition. Both are to be completed during controlled conditions during school lessons. (Totalling to 3 minutes).

#### **Written exam - 40% of the GCSE**

Students will sit a 1 hour 45 minute exam. This is a listening paper that consists of extracts from the 8 pieces of music studied.

### **How can I progress with this qualification?**

