

# Music

## What will I need before taking this course?

You should have GCSE Music at Grade 6 and/or have passed Grade 5 on your instrument and Music Theory Grade 5.

## What can I do at the end of the course?

A Level in Music can lead to further study in Music or Performing Arts in Higher Education at degree level. Music can be used as part of your course to broaden your studies and may lead on to a career in the music industry.

## Assessment and Grading

### **Performing (30%)**

You will be given opportunities to perform as a soloist and/or in ensembles. Any instrument(s) and/or voice are acceptable. Students will perform for a minimum of six minutes at AS and eight minutes at A level. Notated and/or improvised performances may be submitted.

### **Composing (30%)**

At AS students compose two pieces, one to a set brief and the second in response to a different brief or as a free composition. At A level students must compose two pieces, one in response to the free choice brief/free composition and one in response to a brief assessing technique. The two pieces must have a combined duration of at least 4½ minutes at AS and 6 minutes at A level.

### **Appraising (40%)**

You will focus on an anthology of musical extracts, identifying important musical features and putting them in social and historical context. The content is taught through the context of six areas of study.

## What will I learn?

The course will extend the three basic areas of Performing, Composing and Listening and Analysis already encountered at GCSE to a higher level. Although preparation for your solo performances will mostly be undertaken with your instrumental teacher we will involve you in appropriate ensemble performances and time will be allocated within the course for rehearsal.

Your individual composition work will be supported by study of basic harmony and of stylistic procedures. You will develop your listening skills and learn about music from many different areas of study. These will cover a wide range of musical styles and genres, but will include one option from within the western classical tradition.

You will extend these skills in Year 13 including a further area of study and you may specialise either in performance or composition.

AWARDING BODY	Edexcel
CONTACT FOR FURTHER DETAILS	Mr Verma—Teacher in charge of Music