

Music

Post-16

A level Music – Edexcel

Year 12 Music Students are currently following the new A Level specification. This is a two year linear course based on the three components of music education: performing, composing and appraising. The course is outlined below:

1. Performing (30% of total marks)

Students perform on a chosen instrument (or sing). The performance can be in any style. The recital should be a minimum of 8 minutes in length.

2. Composing (30% of total marks)

Students will compose two pieces of music. Students can compose for any combination of instruments or use ICT including the department's Mixcraft software Sibelius. and

Composition 1:

Free composition

Or choose a Brief linked to the Areas of Study (set by Edexcel in Sept of Year 2)
Your composition must be at least 4 minutes in duration.

Composition 2:

The second composition must be from a list of briefs assessing technique, of at least one minute in duration. This will be completed under controlled conditions in 6 hours. The four briefs will always include:

Bach chorale

Two-part counterpoint

Arrangement

Remix

3. Appraising (40% of total marks)

Students will complete a listening and written paper based on the pieces of music studied from the six areas of study:

Instrumental Music – *Concerto in D minor* by Vivaldi, *Piano Trio in G minor* by Wieck-Schumann, *Symphonie Fantastique* by Berlioz

Vocal Music – *The Magic Flute* by Mozart, *Ein Feste Burg* by Bach, *On Wenlock Edge* by Vaughan Williams

Music for Film – *The Duchess* by Rachel Portman, *Batman Returns* by Danny Elfman, *Psycho* by Bernard Herrmann

Popular Music/Jazz – *Back in the Day* by Courtney Pine, *Hounds of Love* by Kate Bush, *Revolver* by The Beatles

Fusions – *Caña Quema* by Familia Valera Miranda, *Estampes* by Debussy, *Breathing Under Water* by Anoushka Shankar

New Directions – *Three Dances for Two Prepared Pianos* by Cage, *Petals for Violoncello and Live Electronics* by Kaija Saariaho, *The Rite of Spring* by Stravinsky

You can find more details by following the link:

Edexcel A Level Music Home Page

Mr J Szyszlo – Head of Music

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