



A Level Music

Why study Music?

Music A Level is an incredibly diverse course, encompassing a variety of practical and academic approaches to the study of music. The varied nature of the course enables students to develop highly desirable skills in areas such as independent learning, self-management, teamwork, problem solving, communication and creativity.

Music A Level can be a pathway to almost any degree course. Taught in mixed classes across all three senior schools in our state-of-the-art facilities, the additional support for any musician at the Loughborough Schools Foundation is unrivalled. In addition to the timetabled allocation (10 periods a week) most students will be entitled to a repertoire session (half an hour a week) supporting performance skills. There are also numerous ensembles and choirs available for students to access, which all play a big part in developing any musician, and should be seen as a must for an A Level musician.

Music A Level is structured around the same 3 components that have been studied at GCSE: performance, composition, listening and appraising. You will need to have achieved at least Grade 7 at GCSE to access the A level course.

We follow the AQA course which is an interesting and exciting course, with an element of choice to the topics that you learn.

Listening, analysis and contextual understanding

This covers 3 Areas of Study taken from: Western Classical Tradition (compulsory), Pop, Music for Media, Music for Theatre, Jazz, Contemporary Traditional Music or Art Music since 1910. This is assessed by exam with listening and written questions.

Music performance

Solo and/or ensemble performing as an instrumentalist and/or vocalist and/or music production lasting a minimum of 10 minutes.

Composition

This consists of two pieces: composition to a brief and free composition.

Future Pathways

The varied and challenging nature of the course enables you to develop highly desirable skills in areas such as independent learning, self-management, teamwork, problem solving, communication, confidence in creativity, discipline, long-term planning, reflective learning, the ability to listen to and respond to constructive advice and the ability to listen in different ways. In addition to obvious career paths such as being a performing musician, a teacher, a music administrator, all of these qualities would also enable you to be a better lawyer, doctor, politician, TV presenter and so on - there are no barriers!

