



# Music

## What is the exam board and route?

A Level Music AQA, 7272

**Subject Entry Requirements:** Grade 7 in GCSE Music advised but A Level Music is open to all who are enthusiastic and committed.

## Subject outline

The course encompasses a variety of practical and academic approaches to music. This enables you to develop skills in areas including independent learning, self-management, teamwork, problem solving, communication and creativity. It is structured around the same three components that have been studied at GCSE: listening and appraising, performance and composition.

## How is the course assessed?

3 components are assessed: Appraising music, Performance and Composition.

### Component 1: Appraising music

This is a 2 hour and 30 minute exam paper with listening and written questions using excerpts of music. This component is 40% of A Level marks.

### Component 2: Performance

You will record a 10-minute solo and/or ensemble performance as an instrumentalist, vocalist or via technology in the March of Year 13. This component is 35% of A Level marks.

### Component 3: Composition

You will write one 'free' composition, and complete a series of technical compositional exercises. This component is 25% of A Level marks.

Component 2 and 3 are Non Examined Assessments and are marked externally.

## Why study this subject?

Music A Level is taught in mixed classes across all three senior schools in our state-of-the-art purpose-built Music department. The department provides an unrivalled level of support for any musician. In addition to the timetabled allocation (10 periods a week) you are entitled to a repertoire session (half an hour a week) supporting performance skills. There are numerous ensembles and choirs available for you to access, regular performing opportunities and visits to concerts which all play a big part in developing any musician, and should be seen as a must for an A Level musician.

## Complementary subjects

Music complements any subject.

## Possible careers

In addition to obvious career paths such as being a performing musician, a composer, a teacher, a music administrator, a concert venue manager, or an artist agent, all of the qualities developed during the course would also enable you to be a better lawyer, doctor, politician, TV presenter and so on - there are no barriers! Previous A Level Music students have studied at universities including Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, King's College London and conservatoires; studying Music, Engineering, Medicine, Law, Geography, Psychology and many other courses.

## Subject enrichment available

- Ensembles
- Enhanced Music Programme workshops and masterclasses
- Lunchtime composing drop-ins
- Sixth Form Concert trips

