



Music KS4



Year 10 & 11

What will students learn / what skills will they develop?

Knowledge and Understanding:

The GCSE course contains four areas of study, which define the subject content, through which candidates develop their knowledge and understanding of:

- the use of musical elements, devices, tonalities and structures
- the use of resources, conventions, processes, music technology and relevant notations, including staff notation
- the contextual influences that affect the way music is created, performed and heard including the effect of different intentions, uses, venues, occasions, available resources and the cultural environment.

Across the areas of study, students will study music from the past and present, from the western tradition and other world cultures. The areas of study also provide opportunities for candidates to further their understanding of musical styles of their own choosing.

The areas of study are:

- Area of Study 1 ***My Music***
- Area of Study 2 ***Shared Music***
- Area of Study 3 ***Dance Music***
- Area of Study 4 ***Descriptive Music***

Skills Development:

The GCSE Music course requires candidates to develop their ability in performing/realising and composing, and to develop their listening and appraising skills.

Students develop practical skills, self discipline and build on their confidence by performing with their instrument or voice. Through the use of composition students broaden creativity, and strengthen self-motivation. Studying Music from the western world enables students to actively engage and appreciate a range of musical styles whilst developing a deeper awareness of the cultural genres.

Controlled Assessment

What will students learn / what skills will they develop?

Knowledge and Understanding:

60% of the course is controlled assessment through a solo performance, an ensemble performance and two compositions. The compositions are mostly in different styles but within the set areas of study. Students may use instruments, voices or ICT to complete the performances and are assessed on accuracy and interpretation. Students will learn new repertoire through their own solo performances and when performing to develop understanding of the areas of study.

Skills Development:

Students will build on their own practical skills through performance; improving co-ordination, accuracy, displaying emotional awareness and improving self-motivation & discipline through detailed practice. Composition is a very creative process allowing students to incorporate ideas identified from the set works into new pieces. Compositions are often completed using musical software. ICT is ideal at realising ideas and notating parts giving students new skills with software.

Examined Units

Unit B353

Creative Task

Timed task – Develop and communicate a short piece.

A timed task drawing on understanding gained from an area of study, in which candidates develop a short piece and communicate it, based on a stimulus.

45 minutes – 40 marks 20% of the qualification.

Unit B354

Listening Test

Written paper with CD

A written paper, with CD, assessing knowledge and understanding of Areas of Study 2, 3 and 4

Up to 1 hour 30 mins – 100 marks 20% of the qualification



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Assessment

The GCSE follows the OCR specification MUSIC (J353). The controlled assessments are teacher assessed and then moderated by the exam board. Students are given a mark and grade for each performance and composition they complete. The creative task and the listening test is completed in the summer exam session in the second year of the course. Regular assessment of a student's progress in class takes place. This follows the three weekly assessment cycle of the school.

Literacy

The exam board specifies the 'language for learning' required to cover the course. Students engage in a range of tasks and activities to learn these. A written commentary and a log and evaluation is required as part of the coursework.

Numeracy

In Music pupils are expected to be able to identify and play musical patterns and sequences, and numerical skills are developed in relation to certain instrumental skills such as playing the keyboard and guitar. Counting, subdivisions of bars and beats, song structures are all examples of numeracy in music.

Home Study

Homework is set when appropriate to the teaching and learning. Students are expected to practice their instrument on a regular basis.

Resources needed

Student's own instrument, pens, planners, assessment folders.

Meeting the needs of Individual Students

Students have access to a range of ICT to assist with compositional tasks. This may be recording computer software Garageband & Logic Pro or notation software Sibelius. Such ICT allows students of differing ability and skills to choose an approach to suit them. Performance pieces are chosen in collaboration with students, the classroom teacher and any other external teachers to ensure students are stretched & challenged to their full potential as a musician.

Additional Support for Learning

Students can access the music department at lunchtimes and afterschool for additional support. There are fortnightly revision classes. Students can also gain additional support from the instrumental tutors.

Useful websites:

<http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk>
<http://www.nyphilkids.org/studio/main.phtml>
<http://www.balibeyond.com/gamelan/>
<http://www.naxosmusiclibrary.com>
<http://www.soundjunction.org/gcsemusicresources>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebite-size/music/>
<http://www.numu.org.uk>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone>

Extra-Curricular Activities and Clubs

Students who opt for GCSE music are able to continue access to instrumental lessons received at Key Stage 3.

SMSC

This GCSE music course offers opportunities which can contribute to an understanding of these issues in the following topics:

Area of Study 1 (*My Music*) provides opportunity for candidates to deepen their understanding of the music they play, its purpose and value, thus promoting their own spiritual awareness, understanding and development.

Areas of Study 2 (*Shared Music*) and 3 (*Dance Music*) offer opportunities to develop understanding of social aspects of music making, and to explore different social and cultural conditions in which music has developed. Across the areas of study, candidates will study music from the western classical tradition, and from other cultures.

Area of Study 4 (*Descriptive Music*) focuses on the power of music as a means of expression. Through practical music making, candidates will learn how to work together, and will experience the social benefits that music making brings. Through composing, candidates will be able to use music as a means of self-expression.

By appraising their own performances and compositions, candidates will consider the impact of the music they create on others.

All areas of study offer opportunities to deepen understanding of the way music impacts on people's lives and well-being through learning about the way music has developed within a range of spiritual, moral, social and economic contexts.