

WELCOME TO A LEVEL MUSIC



'Is Music for me'?

Music A Level will support you in forming personal and meaningful relationships with music through the development of musical knowledge, understanding and skills, including performing, composing and Listening to a wide range of music from different periods of history. You will be encouraged to engage critically and creatively with a wide range of music and musical contexts, develop an understanding of the place of music in different cultures and contexts, and reflect on how music is used in the expression of personal and collective identities. You will also develop particular strengths and interests, foster a lifelong love of learning and the opportunity to progress to higher education and university degree courses in music and music-related subjects, as well as music-related and other careers.

You would be making a wise choice choosing Music as one of your A Level options with a vast number of transferable skills which will help you with other subjects.

What will I study and how is it assessed?

The course is divided into 3 areas;

30% on developing your performing skills as a soloist, (you will work towards a performing in a public concert),

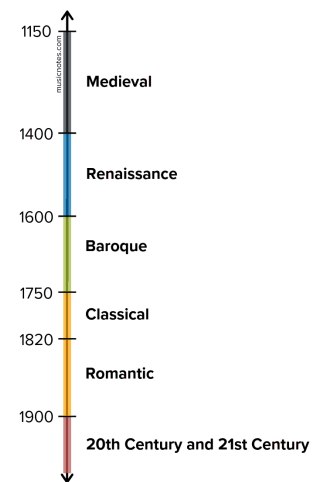
30% developing your creative composing skills, (you will produce a total of two compositions; one to a brief set by the exam board and one either free composition or also to a brief)

40% Applying your musical knowledge through the context of six areas of study, these are; Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Music for Film, Popular Music and Jazz, Fusions, New Directions, and applying musical knowledge to unfamiliar works of music. This is assessed as a 2 hour 10min written examination testing your essay and listening skills.

How can I prepare?

To prepare you for a smooth transition into sixth form and study at A level you need to make sure that your Music theory knowledge is up to scratch. I recommend that you have a working knowledge of at least grade 3 music theory and possibly higher. I have included a link to a great you-tube website which explains the basics of music theory. I would also recommend that you have studied music at GCSE level, achieving at least a grade 5, if you haven't you need to have a good to high level of ability on an instrument or voice.

I would also recommend that you watch the three you-tube links which explain the three main periods of musical history; Baroque, classical and romantic and make relevant notes where possible.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ak976AWRrNk&t=6s> – A potted history of Baroque music

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r19fRTMdcdo> – A potted history of Classical music

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YWRDRRZpwDU> – A potted history of Romantic Music.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_eKTOMhpy2w – Music theory in 16 minutes.

Also link to classic highly you listen to Obviously to date with must.



attached is a fm, which I recommend regularly. keeping up all music is a

Jools Holland's 'Later with Jools Holland' TV programme is also a fantastic watch showcasing a complete mix of world, popular and fusion music.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006ml01>

Where can Music take me?

Music offers a variety of specialisms to choose from, including musical performance, composition, and production. There are many genres of music with lots of opportunities to gain practical experience through large networks.

You could study any of the following courses if you take Music as an A level; Music • Musical Theatre • Music Education • Music and Communities • Sound and Music for Games • Commercial Song-writing • Audio Recording and Production • Music Business • Music Therapy • Song-writing • Music Composition • Music Technology • Sound Engineering.

You can study music at a university, college or conservatoire. Conservatoires specialise and focus on performance-based study, with a strong emphasis on one-to-one tuition, group work, and performance. University and college courses tend to focus on theory-based disciplines such as analysis, harmony and counterpoint, music technology, and psychology of performing, as well as performance itself.

