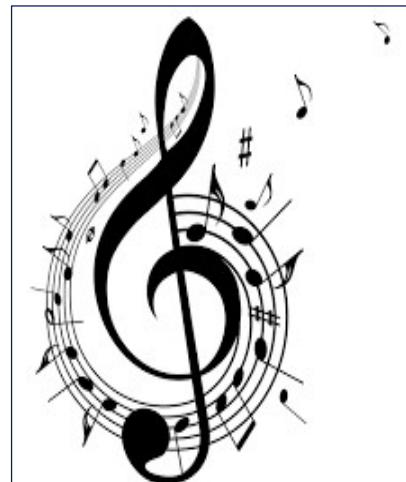


What is the course about?

You will learn about a wide-range of musical styles and genres through a mixture of listening and practical activities – composing and performing.

As well as studying specific topics, you will have the freedom to develop your own musical interests, particularly when composing and performing, using appropriate music technology. This course brings theory, listening and composition to life and links strongly to the world around us. It will allow you to broaden your mind and foster a love of all music – for all abilities and backgrounds.



What topics will I study?

1. Understanding music: Western classical tradition 1650-1910 and from 1910; Popular music; Traditional music.
A combination of questions which involve listening to unfamiliar music as well as questions relating to the study of set works.
(Assessment – Listening Exam – 1 hour 30 minutes)
2. Performing music – two performances must be given and recorded (one solo and one ensemble).
3. Composing music – two compositions (one to a brief and the other a free choice).

What activities will there be?

A combination of activities which integrate the key skills of listening, performing and composing, and help you to develop your all-round musical understanding and theoretical knowledge. Much practical music-making alongside the study of particular topics and set pieces. There is a lot of scope for you to develop your music-making in ways that suit you as an individual, and that particularly interest you as a musician.

What percentage of the final grade is from coursework?

60% Coursework – two performances (30%) and two compositions (30%).

What about after Key Stage 4? (Careers and College)

Any Music or Performing Arts further/higher education courses – Music, Music Technology and Sound Engineering. Careers – education (teaching) and the broader music industry, including theatre, video game and film industries, TV and radio. The course develops a range of transferable skills valuable in all areas of work and further education.

Exam board and useful website?

AQA Music (8271) www.aqa.org.uk

