

Music GCSE is split into 3 parts;
Performing, composing and analysing.



Each week you have one lesson on
each aspect of the exam

Performing

You will perform 2 pieces, one solo and one ensemble, each worth 15% of your mark. You can perform on any instrument, including voice. The harder the piece is the more marks you get.

Don't worry if you haven't had lessons before, the exam is designed to be fair to the people who have only learnt an instrument in class.



You are expected to practice your instrument for at least an hour a week and attend an ensemble, either in or outside of school.

Composing

You will complete 2 compositions, each worth 15% of your grade.



The first composition is a FREE CHOICE composition that you complete in Year 10

In September of Year 11 the exam board (OCR) send out 4 composition briefs, each based on an area of music you have been studying. You then have 4 months to complete this composition.

You can use technology such as Garageband and Logic to compose, or you can write and record it yourself. It **MUST** be your own, original work.

You will be expected to work on your compositions at home or in school at a lunchtime for at least 30 minutes a week.

GCSE MUSIC - Appraising

You will study 4 areas of music in detail;

The concerto through time (looking at the instruments of the orchestra and compositional techniques)

Rhythms of the world (looking at traditional music from India, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East)

Film music (looking at the ways music is used to create emotion and drama). This includes music for computer games as well.

Conventions of pop (looking at how music has developed in the 20th and 21st century, looking in particular at song writing and technology)

At the end of Year 11 you will have a listening exam which will test your knowledge on these 4 areas. This is worth 40% of your mark.