

Music

Qualifications

Exam Board: OCR H142 (AS) and HS542 (A2)

End of year 13 – A2 Level (two year course only)

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 passes at grade 5 or grade C (including English and Maths). A minimum of a grade 5 in Music is required and students must have a good level of musical performance.

Skills Required

Students must be able to demonstrate a broad range of performing skills both on their own and in a group. They will have to show the capacity for the critical analysis of music and to develop the subject specific language to convey their ideas and insights. They need to develop their creative skills in composition and will need to develop their understanding of harmony. An ability to manage time and workload is essential for this course.

Course Outline

AS Level Music

For the performance unit you have to perform at least 2 contrasting pieces with a combined total of 6 minutes and you will have to complete 2 compositions. The listening and appraising exam is 2 hours long and you will study the instrumental music of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven, Jazz and Popular music.

A2 Level Music

In the A Level course you can add extra weight to performing or to composing depending on your strengths. You also have to study an extra area of music which is programme music.

Student Testimony

"I found the subject a great way to develop my knowledge and understanding of how music is structured and composed. It has also given me a better insight and respect for classical composers."

"I would recommend music, it not only improves your musical skills, but allows you to meet new people through concerts and musicals."

Career Paths & Degree Courses

Music provides a useful foundation for any music degree and provides a good background for a large number of careers such as: teaching, performing, television, sound producer/engineer, advertising, and many others.

Year 12	Year 13 candidates take modules (1,3&5) OR (2,4&5)
Performing (01) Two contrasting pieces, minimum of 6 minutes in total 30% of AS (75 marks)	Performing A (01) Two contrasting pieces, minimum of 6 minutes long 25% of A level (75 marks) Performing B (02) Three contrasting pieces, minimum of 10 minutes long 35% of A Level
Composing (02) Two compositions with a combined total of at least 4 minutes 30 seconds 30% of AS (75 marks)	Composing A (03) Two composition and three technical exercises with a combined total of 8 minutes 35% of A Level (105 marks) Composing B (14) Two compositions with a combined total of at least 4 minutes 25% of A Level (75 marks)
Listening and Appraising (03) 2 hour written exam including aural extracts 40% of AS (100 marks)	Listening and Appraising (05) 2 hour 30 minutes written examination including aural extracts 40% of A Level (120 marks)