

Course Information - Music

This GCSE course is a natural progression for those who enjoyed learning the subject in KS3. It allows students to develop composition, listening, musical theory and performing skills throughout the course.

Course Content

Within GCSE Music students broaden their theory knowledge and develop performing and composition skills.

Following the Eduqas specification students develop an understanding of four different areas of musical study: Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music and Popular Music and also includes two set works. This allows students to categorise theory work and makes it much more manageable and fun for learning.

Students also begin to develop an understanding of the use of Logic software which is the package used to develop compositions. Performances are also completed in solo and ensemble form in an instrument of their choice.

Assessment

Component 1 – Performance – 30% (internally assessed, externally moderated)

Students perform two pieces of music (between 4-6 minutes in total); one a solo performance the other as part of an ensemble using an instrument of their choice.

Component 2 – Composing – 30% (internally assessed, externally moderated)

Students compose two pieces of music; one is a free choice, the other a composition in response to a brief set by the exam board.

Component 3 – Appraising Music – 40% (listening exam, externally assessed)

Students complete a listening exam (1 hour 15mins) which consists of 8 questions which draws together theory knowledge applied through the performed excerpts. Two questions each are based on the four areas of study. Also, within these 8 questions, two questions are based on the set works which are 'Eine Kleine Nachtmusik' and 'Since You've Been Gone'.

Future Opportunities

This course GCSE music is a perfect springboard for those who would like to study Music at A-Level. Students can also go on to study A-Level Music Technology or it can also be helpful in gaining access to a Performing Arts course at college. This can lead students into a career in the Arts or teaching perhaps.



The Holy Family Catholic School

