

Subject: Eduqas GCSE (9 - 1) in Music

Introduction

This GCSE qualification supports students in the development of musical knowledge, understanding and skills including performing, composing and appraising. The qualification encourages students to engage with a wide range of music and musical context and develop an understanding of the place of music in different cultures and contexts.

Aims of the Subject

- To engage actively in the process of music study
- Develop performing skills individually and in groups to communicate musically with fluency and control of the resources used
- Develop composing skills to organise musical ideas and make use of appropriate resources
- Broaden musical experience and interests, develop imagination and foster creativity
- Develop knowledge, understanding and skills needed to communicate effectively as musicians

Content

Component 1: Performing 30% of qualification

Students will look at a variety of performance styles, skills and techniques focussing on the main areas of solo and ensemble performing. **Assessment** - Performance of two pieces, one of which must be an ensemble piece, lasting 4 - 6 minutes in total.

Component 2: Composing 30% of qualification

Students will study a variety of compositional techniques from a range of different styles, focussing on developing musical ideas, compositional techniques and strategies, methods of notating scores. **Assessment** - Students compose two compositions, one to a brief set by Eduqas, and one free composition set by the student, lasting 3 - 6 minutes in duration.

Component 3: Appraising 40% of the qualification

Students will learn about:

- Musical elements (Dynamics, Rhythm, Texture, Metre, Timbre, Structure, Melody, Instrumentation, Tempo, Harmony, Pitch, Duration)
- Musical contexts (Time, place and reasoning for composition, performance and styles)
- Musical language (Key terms for both musical performance and composition techniques)

They will focus on four Areas of study, two of these have set works:

- Musical Forms and Devices
- Music for Ensemble
- Film Music
- Popular Music

Assessment - Written examination: 1 hour and 15 minutes (approximately)

Useful Resources and Further Information

Music is an inclusive subject and is open to all, however, due to the requirements of the performance element and the requirements of basic musical understanding, it is advised that you are grade 2-3 equivalent on your first instrument as grade 3 is the standard complexity of pieces for GCSE. If you have not completed formal grades or are not sure what this means, please see Mr. Buckby to discuss your suitability.

This qualification supports the development of musical fluency and provides access to further study of music at AS and A Level.

