

An Overview of the Course

A Level Music The OCR A Level in Music requires learners to develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language, and allow students to apply these, where appropriate, to their own work when performing and composing.

Areas of Study

1. Instrumental music of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven
2. Popular song: Blues, jazz, swing and big band
3. Instrumental jazz from 1910 to the present day
4. Religious music of the Baroque Period
5. Programme music 1820-1910
6. Innovations in music from 1900 to the present day

Component title Content overview – Composition Route

Performing A (25%) Recital (6-9 minutes)

A video recorded recital

Learners will make use of musical elements, techniques and resources to interpret and communicate musical ideas with technical and expressive control and an understanding of style and context.

This will be achieved through playing or singing solo or in an ensemble, improvising, or realising music through music technology.

Composing A (35%) Composition of at least three separate pieces of music

- One to a brief set by OCR
- One to a brief written by the learner
- A specialist study in composition techniques
- Combined duration at least 8 minutes.

Component title Content overview – Performance Route

Performing B (35%) Recital (10-12 Minutes)

A video recorded recital.

Learners will make use of musical elements, techniques and resources to interpret and communicate musical ideas with technical and expressive control and an understanding of style and context.

This will be achieved through playing or singing solo or in an ensemble, improvising, or realising music through music technology.

Composing B (25%) Composition of at least two separate pieces of music

- One to a brief set by OCR
- One to a brief written by the learner
- Combined duration at least 4 minutes.

Listening and Appraising Written Exam responding to extracts on a CD and contextual study of prescribed works and Areas of Study

- Aural recognition and context
- Unheard/unfamiliar music
- Analysing and evaluating prescribed music
- Reflecting on music written for a purpose.

Summer Task

Please ensure that you research historical periods in music from Baroque to the Present Day. You should know the characteristics of each style, type of pieces composed, type of instrumental/vocal groups commonly used in each period and a knowledge of at least two composers from each period.

You will be expected to participate in all college musical performances, as you will be seen as ambassadors for the Music Department and inspiration for younger students.

I look forward to teaching you in September!

Mrs Berry