



## QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL

**Awarding Body:**

AQA

**Length of Course:**

2 Year

All candidates follow a varied programme of composing, performing, listening and appraising music through three units each academic year:

**Year 12**

**AS Level**

### **Component 1: Appraising Music**

- Candidates will develop listening skills, and analysis and contextual understanding of music over the course of the year.
- The in-depth Areas of Study covered are *Music Theatre* and the *Baroque Concerto*, in which students will be asked listening questions based on excerpts of music.
- They will also undertake extended writing questions based on these specific areas of study.

### **Component 2: Performance**

Candidates will prepare a varied solo repertoire throughout the course with tuition from an instrumental/vocal tutor in the academy. They will select a programme for a solo performance at the end of the course to last for a minimum of 6 minutes

*This should be at Grade 6 or higher to access the highest marks.*

### **Component 3: Composition**

Candidates will complete various composition exercises throughout the course, culminating in two final pieces of controlled assessment:

1. Composition to a brief
2. Free composition

Both compositions should last a minimum of 4 and a half minutes.

#### **Assessed by a written examination**

40% of total AS marks  
2 hours duration

#### **Assessed by a performance examination**

30% of total AS marks

#### **Assessed via coursework**

30% of total AS marks

## **Year 13**

### **A-level**

#### **Component 1: Appraising Music**

- Candidates will develop listening skills, and analysis and contextual understanding of music over the course of the year.
- In addition to AS, the Areas of Study covered are *Music for Media* and *Romantic Piano music*, in which students will be asked listening questions based on excerpts of music.
- They will also undertake extended writing questions based on these specific areas of study.

#### **Component 2: Performance**

Once again, candidates will continue to develop a varied repertoire throughout the course with tuition from an instrumental/vocal tutor in the academy. They will then select a programme for a solo performance to last a minimum of 10 minutes.

*This should be at Grade 7 or higher to access the highest marks.*

#### **Component 3: Composition**

Identical to AS, candidates will complete various composition exercises throughout the course, culminating in two final pieces of controlled assessment:

1. Composition to a brief
2. Free composition

Both compositions should last a minimum of 4 and a half minutes.

#### **Assessed by a written examination**

40% of total A-level marks  
2 and a half hours duration

#### **Assessed by a performance examination**

35% of total A-level marks

#### **Assessed via coursework**

25% of total A-level marks

An A-level in Music is looked upon very favourably by universities and employers as it

shows you possess a skill, and have acquired this skill through discipline, motivation and effort. It will also show you have good social skills and confidence. It is also a good choice to provide a contrast to a programme of facilitating subjects at A level, and to help keep your future career choices wide open.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A GCSE in Music of 6 or above is essential. Candidates should also have passed ABRSM Grade 5 (or its equivalent) in a musical instrument/voice. Consideration will be given to students who have not taken GCSE music, but who have passed ABRSM Grade 5 Theory.

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SIXTH FORM VISIT

GIRLS' SCHOOL VISIT

BOYS' SCHOOL VISIT