

A Level Music (Eduqas)

Head of Department: Ms J Langham

Many subjects combine well with Music, from a wide range of Humanities and Languages as well as Mathematics and Science. A qualification in Music is highly regarded by universities and future employers; it demonstrates an impressive combined skill-set in theoretical understanding, technical proficiency, talent and creativity. Students who have achieved an A-level in music demonstrate that they are committed individuals who have worked for a long time on the development of a practical skill.

In Year 12, you will study:

Music Theory

- Circle of Fifths and key relationships
- Chord and interval analysis
- Figured bass
- Score reading
- Structural conventions

Development of the Symphony 1750-1900

- Changes in orchestration, thematic writing, approach to harmony, rhythm, texture and programmaticism throughout the Classical and Romantic Periods
- Analysis of example Symphonies including Haydn Symphony 104 (set work) and Mendelssohn's Italian Symphony
- Composers including Mozart; Beethoven; Berlioz; Tchaikovsky; Schubert; Brahms; Wagner.

Rock and Pop

- The stylistic conventions of Soul; Funk; Disco; Pop; Rock; Folk and Country music
- Develop analytical skills in Rock and Pop compositional writing, melodic parts, chords and technology

Composition

- Advanced compositional skills using music technology and musicianship skills
- Compose a free composition in a genre of your choice

**100% A*-C
in 2024**

In Year 13, you will study:

Music Dictation

- How to dictate music from an orchestral extract and identify mistakes on a score

20th Century Music

- The stylistic conventions of Impressionism, Expressionism, Serialism and Neo-Classicism
- Analyse Debussy's 'Nuages' and Poulenc's 'Trio' as set works
- Wider listening in these genres and develop appraisal skills for 20th century repertoire.

Composition in the Western Classical Tradition

- The Classical conventions for small ensemble and apply these to a composition of your own, following a brief from EDUQAS.

Performance recital

- Perform a 10-minute recital to a visiting examiner (at a minimum difficulty level of Grade 6)

At the end of Year 13, you sit 1 written exam:

- 2 questions analysing Rock and Pop extracts
- 1 question analysing a 20th century set work
- 1 question analysing an unknown 20th century extract
- 1 orchestral dictation question
- 1 question on the Haydn 104 set work symphony
- 1 essay question on the Development of the symphony 1750-1900.

We submit your two compositions to the exam board along with a composition log and scores.

UGS Music department is a vibrant place where there are countless opportunities for students from all year groups to participate in music making, including Performing arts events, whole-school musicals, recitals, trips and workshops.