



Post 16 Prospectus: MUSIC

Advanced Subsidiary & Advanced Level
Examining Board: AQA

AIM

A Level music directly supports progression to further and higher education in music and related subjects, as well as providing all students with a platform to inspire a lifelong interest and enjoyment of, music.

COURSE CONTENT

Advanced Level (Decoupled Exam)	
1	Component 1: Appraising Music (Listening and Written Paper) 120 marks
	Section A: Listening (56 marks)
	Section B: Analysis (34 marks)
	Section C: Essay (30 marks)
2	Component 2: Performance (externally marked) 50 marks
	A minimum of 10 minutes of performance is required (above Grade 6 ABRSM).
3	Component 3: Composition (externally marked) 50 marks
	2 compositions (one brief-led and the other free choice). A minimum of 4 minutes 30 seconds is required.
A LEVEL ASSESSMENT	
Component 1: 40%	
Component 2: 35%	
Component 3: 25%	

SUBJECT ENRICHMENT

Participation in extra-curricular clubs in school and in the local area. Attendance at concerts, where appropriate.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

General entry requirement for Post-16: 5 grade 4/C at GCSE, including English and/or Maths.

Specific entry requirements: Grade 5 in GCSE music or Grade 5 practical in chosen instrument/voice *and* Grade 5 Theory of Music if no GCSE music qualification.



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A STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

"A level music has allowed me to continue my instrumental studies to a much higher level. I am now able to use my Grade 8 exam pieces as part of the final assessment. I enjoyed composition at GCSE and have been able to extend my work here, using different techniques and be more creative."

WHERE NEXT?

Music based courses post-18 but also any Arts, Social Sciences, Science pathway.

STUDENT SUCCESSES

2015: Anthony to Cambridge to study music. Awarded organ scholarship and was successful in winning a second scholarship for his second year. Accompanying choirs and playing cathedral organs all over the world and looking forward to a very promising career in music.

2018: Alice was awarded full scholarships and unconditional offers at 3 conservatoires. She is now in her fourth year at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester studying Classical Bassoon.

2020: Edgar and Matt were successful in gaining places at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester studying Classical Guitar and Saxophone respectively. They are now in their second year on a BMus course.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Students experience different teaching styles (teacher-led, small group work and individual tutorial style sessions) to ensure all learning styles are catered for. With a heavy emphasis on practical music making, staff connect with instrumental and vocal tutors where possible to keep up to date with student progress and ensure tutors are confident using the mark schemes in private lessons. Small cohorts allow for personalised support and lessons operate in a carousel fashion to ensure fair access to resources and staff.