

# Music

GCSE Qualification - EDUQAS

Course Leader: **Miss Arcscott**

## Successful learner profile

- Has a passion for, and is committed to, the subject.
- Works well independently, and as part of an ensemble and is able to meet deadlines.
- Can perform in front of an audience.
- Has resilience in every aspect of performing and practice.
- Has an appreciation for a wide range of musical genres.

## What will you study?

### Component 1 – Performing

- Learners are encouraged to develop their knowledge and understanding of music through performing.
- All learners are required to perform a minimum of two pieces of which at least one must be as part of an ensemble performance lasting at least one minute.
- Supporting evidence and/or score
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### Component 2 – Composing

Learners are encouraged to develop their knowledge and understanding of music through composing. All learners are required to create and develop musical ideas in relation to given and chosen briefs.

1. A composition which responds to a brief set by WJEC. The brief will be released during the first week of September in the academic year in which the assessment is to be taken.
2. A free composition. Learners will compose a piece of music in a style of their own choice and assessed on their musical response to their chosen brief.
3. Portfolio evidence for both compositions

### Component 3 – Appraising

Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language, through the following four areas of study:

- Area of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices
- Area of study 2: Music for Ensemble
- Area of study 3: Film Music
- Area of study 4: Popular Music

## Why choose this course?

This course offers a dynamic, inspiring and comprehensive musical education that supports you in becoming a skilled, thoughtful and creative musician. You will actively engage in the study of music, building your performing skills both individually and as part of an ensemble, learning to communicate with fluency, control and musical expression. You will also develop your composing abilities, exploring how to organise musical ideas and use a range of resources to bring your creative intentions to life. Alongside this, you'll broaden your musical horizons, discovering new styles, genres and traditions while nurturing your imagination and creativity.

## How will you be assessed?

### Component 1 – Performing 30%

- Two performances
- Scores

### Component 2 – Composing 30%

- Two compositions
- Portfolio Evidence

### Component 3 – Appraising 40%

- Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes

## Possible progression post 16

GCSE Music can lead to a range of post 16 options, including A Level Music, Music Technology, or vocational BTEC courses in performance or production. Students can also progress into related creative subjects such as Performing Arts, Media, or Drama. The skills developed in music—creativity, confidence, and analytical thinking—support success in many academic subjects too. These pathways can eventually lead to university study, conservatoire training, apprenticeships, or careers in the wider creative industries.

## Weblinks

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/media/by5boopf/eduqas-gcse-music-spec-from-2016-d.pdf>  
GCSE Music - Eduqas - BBC Bitesize