

Music

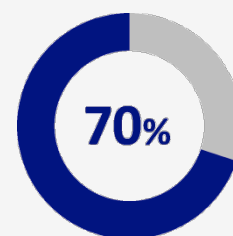
Overview

A Level music is an exciting, diverse and challenging choice of subject, and at QEHS we offer much more than just a simple course of academic study. Our AS/A level music students are an integral part of our extremely successful extracurricular program, with weekly rehearsals and regular opportunities for public performances. Orchestra, String Ensemble, Dance band, Senior Choir (SATB) and student led Chamber Choirs are just some of the different groups on offer, and we firmly believe in the importance of such activities in broadening the understanding and experiences of our AS/A level pupils.

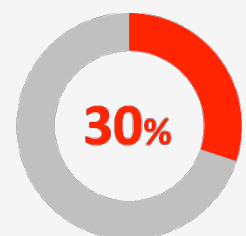
The course itself is structured around three skills areas – performing, composing and appraising, with the option to specialise in one of these areas in the second year. Students receive free weekly, expert peripatetic tuition in order to prepare for the performing aspect of the course.

Students are encouraged to explore both contemporary and traditional styles of composition, and have excellent access to a range of ICT equipment/software in order to realise their individual ideas. Appraising continues to develop and extend general aural perception skills similar to those required at GCSE but students also carry out detailed analysis of a number of set works drawn from both classical and modern music.

Assessment



Examination



Controlled Assessment

Examining Board

WJEC

Requirements

Minimum grade C in GCSE music, and at least grade 5 standard or above on a suitable instrument or voice.

Departmental Staff

Mrs Rhian Honour (Curriculum Leader)
Mrs Sarah Kirby



Course Outline

The course is divided into six units, three being studied at AS level and a further three at A level

AS Units

- **MU1 Performing** - students present an 6 -8 minute performance, either as a soloist or as a member of an ensemble, or a combination of the two.
- **MU2 Composing** - students compose two compositions; 1 free choice and 1 Western Classical.
- **MU3 Appraising** – students study one classical genre, with a specific focus on one set work, and either Rock & Pop, Musical Theatre or Jazz.

A2 Units

- **MU4 Performing – Option A:** students present a 10-12 minute performance, with at least one solo piece. **Option B:** students present an 6 -8 minute performance, either as a soloist or as a member of an ensemble, or a combination of the two.
- **MU5 Composing – Option A:** students compose two compositions, 1 free choice and 1 Western Classical. **Option B:** students compose three compositions, 1 free choice, 1 linked to an area of study, and 1 Western Classical.
- **MU6 Appraising** - This involves the detailed study and analysis of 3 contrasting set works, as well as research and understanding of the genres and historical contexts each set work is drawn from.

Career and Progression Opportunities

Advanced Level Music provides a suitable foundation for the study of music at Higher Education, including universities and academies.

It also prepares students for direct entry into the entertainment industry which is one of the largest employment sectors in the modern world.

Contact

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