

Examination Music

Examination Board: GCSE Music AQA and BTEC Music EDEXCEL

Contact: Mrs R Bonner



Entry Requirements:

Playing an instrument or singing is essential.

Course Aims:

Examination courses allow pupils to develop their creative abilities through either performance and composition or through engaging in the music industry by developing a wide range of relevant practical and technical musical skills. In Year 9, all pupils will cover the content and skills that are common to both **GCSE Music** and **BTEC Music**. Both qualifications are equivalent in terms of progression to further study. However, the way in which they are assessed differs and some of the content/skills are also different in the second and third years of the course. At the end of Year 9, pupils will pursue the course that is most suited to their preferred learning style and which will ensure they achieve the best possible outcome at the end of Year 11.

Course Descriptions:

Both courses provide pupils with an appropriate focus to appraise, develop and demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of music:

GCSE Music: The areas of study are as follows — Western Classical Tradition 1650-1910, Popular Music, Traditional Music and Western Classical Tradition since 1910. Assessment is broken down into the following components: Understanding Music (40%), Performing Music (30%) and Composing Music (30%)

BTEC Music: Pupils complete two mandatory units— The Music Industry and Managing a Music Product. Pupils then choose two optional units to complete — Introducing Live Sound, Introducing Music Composition, Introducing Music Performance, Introducing Music Recordings or Introducing Music Sequencing

How will I learn?

Lessons will make use of your preferred instrument wherever possible to nurture skills in performance and composition. Some time will also be dedicated to studying careers in the music industry and planning a musical concert or performance.

Possible Career Pathways:

After completing a course in Music, you can study AS/A2 level qualifications at a sixth form college or branch into a more practical BTEC or college course in performance and recording leading to university or careers including sound editing, sound engineering, film/tv composing and performance.