

Tarporley Sixth Form College



Music A Level

Programme of Study

Exam Board: AQA

NAME:	
TARGET GRADE	
ASPIRATIONAL GRADE	

COMPONENT 1: APPRAISING MUSIC (120 Marks – 40%)	COMPONENT 2: PERFORMING MUSIC (50 Marks – 35%)	COMPONENT 3: COMPOSING MUSIC (50 marks – 25%)
What's assessed? - Listening & Analysis - Contextual Understanding	What's assessed? Music performance	What's assessed? Composition
How it's assessed Exam paper with listening and written questions using excerpts of music.	How it's assessed Solo and/or ensemble performing as an instrumentalist, or vocalist and/or music production (via technology).	How it's assessed Composition 1: Composition to a brief (25 marks) Composition 2: Free composition (25 marks)
Questions Section A: Listening (56 marks) Section B: Analysis (34 marks) Section C: Essay (30 marks)	Requirement A minimum of ten minutes. Non-exam assessment (NEA) will be externally marked by AQA examiners.	Requirement A minimum of four and a half minutes of music in total is required. NEA will be externally marked by AQA examiners.

Your Key Topics over the Course:

Topic	What you study	In the exam
<p>Area of Study 1-Western classical tradition.</p> <p>Strand A: Baroque Solo Concerto.</p>	<p>Baroque: the solo concerto</p> <p>You will study 3 pieces</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Purcell Sonata for trumpet and strings in D Major – Z.850 2. Vivaldi : Flute Concerto in D Major Op.10 No 3 'Il Gardellino' 3. Bach : Violin Concerto in A Minor BWV1041 	<p><u>Listening (Section A)</u> (Qu. 1-3, 20 marks):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Listen to unfamiliar music to identify and accurately describe musical elements and use musical language. <p><u>Analysis (Section B)</u> (Qu. 22, 17 marks):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To critically appraise music through analysing excerpts from one of these three set works
<p>Area of Study 1-Western classical tradition.</p> <p>Strand C: The Piano Music of Chopin, Brahms and Grieg.</p>	<p>Romantic Piano Music</p> <p>You will study 6 pieces</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chopin: Nocturne in E Minor Op.72 No 1 2. Chopin: Ballade No.2 in F Major Op.38 3. Brahms: Intermezzo in A Major op.118 no .2 4. Brahms: Ballade in G Minor Op.118 No 3 5. Greig Norwegian March Op.54 No 2 6. Greig Nottuno Op.54 No. 4 	<p><u>Listening (Section A)</u> (Qu. 1-3, 20 marks):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Listen to unfamiliar music to identify and accurately describe musical elements and use musical language <p><u>Analysis (Section B)</u> (Qu. 24, 17 marks):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To critically appraise music through analysing excerpts from one of these six set works
<p>Area of Study 2-Pop Music</p>	<p>Pop Music</p> <p>You will study music from 6 featured artists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stevie Wonder 2. Joni Mitchell 3. Muse 4. Beyoncé 5. Daft Punk 6. Labrinth 	<p><u>Listening (Section A)</u> (Qu. 4-6, 18 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two sets of short answer questions (8 marks) - One long answer question (10 marks) <p><u>Essay (Section C)</u> (Qu.25, 30 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Essay Option 1 of 2
<p>Area of Study 5-Jazz</p>	<p>Jazz</p> <p>You will study music from 6 featured artists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Louis Armstrong 2. Duke Ellington 3. Charlie Parker 4. Miles Davis 5. Pat Metheny 6. Gwilym Simcock 	<p><u>Listening (Section A)</u> (Qu. 13-15, 18 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two sets of short answer questions (8 marks) - One long answer question (10 marks) <p><u>Essay (Section C)</u> (Qu.28, 30 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Essay Option 2 of 2



How your course is structured

A Level Music – Year 1		
Component 1: Appraising Music	Component 2: Performing Music	Component 3: Composing Music
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Study and analysis of set works and repertoire for Strand A: Baroque Solo Concerto - Introduction to Area of Study 5: Jazz and an in-depth study of the musical features and contexts relating to Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington and Charlie Parker. <p>Assessment 1: Listening and appraising questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion of repertoire and setting practise goals, routines and processes - Establishing links with instrumental teachers (if applicable) to establish suitable piece. <p>Assessment 2: One performance piece</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to composition skills and techniques. - Selection of past brief to practise composition skills - Introduction to keeping a log and portfolio. <p>Assessment 3: Composition Skills Review</p>
Christmas Holidays		
Component 1: Appraising Music	Component 2: Performing Music	Component 3: Composing Music
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completing study and analysis of set works and repertoire for Strand A: Baroque Solo Concerto - Listening to unfamiliar repertoire for Strand B: Operas of Mozart - Continued in-depth study of the musical features and contexts in Area of Study 5: Jazz concentrating on Miles Davis, Pat Metheny and Gwilym Simcock - Introduction to Area of Study 2: Pop Music <p>Assessment 1: Listening and Analysis example questions; Essay question for Jazz</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continued study, exploration and development of repertoire <p>Assessment 2: Performance review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of composition skills and ideas for Composition 2: Free Composition <p>Assessment 3: Free Composition progress and review</p>
Easter Holidays		
Component 1: Appraising Music	Component 2: Performing Music	Component 3: Composing Music
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continued study of unfamiliar repertoire for Strand B: Operas of Mozart - Reference to questions, exemplar materials and listening tasks for the above strands and Area of Study 5: Jazz <p>Assessment 1: Mock Exam</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final decisions made on repertoire - Continued refinement and evaluation of practise goals and routines <p>Assessment 2: Mock Performance Recital – 2 pieces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refinement and presentation of composition skills with draft completion of Composition 2: Free Composition <p>Assessment 3: Free Composition progress and review</p>
Summer Holidays		

A Level Music – Year 2

Component 1: Appraising Music	Component 2: Performing Music	Component 3: Composing Music
<p>- Study and analysis of set works and repertoire for Strand C: Romantic Piano Music</p> <p>In depth study and analysis of musical elements and musical contexts for Area of Study 2: Pop relating to the works of Stevie Wonder, Joni Mitchell and Muse.</p> <p>- Developing further unfamiliar listening repertoire for Areas of Study 1, 2 and 5.</p> <p>Assessment 1: On-going Listening and Appraising exercises; Mock Exam 2</p>	<p>- Exploring the art of performance and forming a recital programme</p> <p>- Structured independent practise and progress log.</p> <p>Assessment 2: Mock performance recital – full programme</p>	<p>- Selection of externally set brief for Composition 1: Brief Composition (released on or as near as possible to 15th September in the exam year)</p> <p>- Responding to feedback to refine Composition 2: Free Composition</p> <p>Assessment 3: Completed Free Composition</p>

Christmas Holidays

Component 1: Appraising Music	Component 2: Performing Music	Component 3: Composing Music
<p>- - Continued in-depth study of the musical features and contexts in Area of Study 2: Pop concentrating on Beyoncé, Daff Punk and Labrinth.</p> <p>- Continuation of in-depth revision and analysis as well as continued development of knowledge and understanding of musical elements, context and language relation to Areas of Study 1 and 5.</p> <p>Assessment 1: On-going Listening and Appraising exercises; Mock Exam 3</p>	<p>- Independent practise in preparation for recordings</p> <p>- Preparation and rehearsal for final recording.</p> <p>Assessment 2: Final recording to be completed anytime from March 15th</p>	<p>- Refinement and presentation of Composition 1 and 2.</p> <p>- Any live recordings of compositions</p> <p>Assessment 3: Recordings of Composition 1 and 2</p>

Easter Holidays

Component 1: Appraising Music	Component 2: Performing Music	Component 3: Composing Music
<p>- Completion of study and revision of musical elements, context and language associated with Areas of Study 1, 2 and 5.</p> <p>Examination Paper June 2023</p>	<p>- Producing final recordings of performance recital.</p> <p>External Marking</p>	<p>- Completion of two compositions with written evidence and composition log</p> <p>- Export and recording of both compositions.</p> <p>External Marking</p>

Summer Holidays

Key words to learn:

Students will be given a course and assessment profile with key words for each Area of Study.

Top Study Tips:

LISTEN TO MUSIC: Create a Spotify, Youtube or Apple Music playlist with a range of music relating to the artists or set works that you study. Do not be afraid to read around and listen to other music by the selected artists. Immersing yourself in the music you study!

PLAY MUSIC: Play some of the music you are studying, much of it is available to download, which may enable you to pick out some key themes or melodies that you can commit to memory.

Have two Lever Arch Folders – One for AoS 1, One for AOS 2 and 5.

Use file dividers to organise each topic. File your notes carefully each week – remember to date classwork so you remember the sequence of each lesson. This will make revision easier.

Use your Booklets and notes to make cue cards

For each area of study, you will get a list of key terms. In addition each composer or artist will have their own unique ways of composing. Use the information you gather to make cue cards – put the term on one side and the definition on the other - useful now and a great revision aid for later.

Type up class notes and add to them.

This is a great way to consolidate your knowledge, commit things to memory and make your knowledge deeper.

Keep revisiting work and topics

Don't simply file away and forget. Routinely to go over last term / year's work.

Coursework Tips:

Composing: Go the extra mile.

Use free time to explore composition on your instrument at home.

Show your work to others: Everyone has different ideas about music, one suggestion may lead you to explore new ideas. Also, get musicians to play your composition so you can hear it on live instruments.

Performing: Time is precious...

Performances need serious commitment and preparation. You need to decide what you are going to play as early as possible and ensure copies of the music are readily available for regular practice. Take advantage of the time to perform your pieces in concerts, to your family, to Mrs Kefford and Mr Williams so you can build a creative, effective and engaging programme.