

**Course Tier Information (where appropriate):**

One tier of entry: 9 -1

**Course Assessment: Coursework 60%****Examination 40%****General Course Information:**

Students who take GCSE Music are provided with a challenging and firm grounding in a wide range of music. This enables those who wish to progress to music courses in KS5 with a good foundation.

OCR GCSE Music consists of different Areas of Study:

**My Music** You study your own instrument with a focus on performance and composing. This could be a musical instrument that you play, your voice (singing, beatboxing, rapping), sequencing (creating music on a computer) or DJ-ing.

**Conventions of Pop** This covers pop music from the 1950's onwards. It focuses on Rock 'n' Roll in the '50s and '60s, Rock Anthems in the '70s and '80s, Pop Ballads in the '70s, '80s and '90s, and Solo Artists from the '90s onwards.

**Film Music** is an Area of Study that should be familiar to students from their Key Stage 3 studies. There are three topics: Music composed for films, classical music used within films, and music composed for video games.

**Rhythms of the World** This covers music from the following locations: India and the Punjab region, the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East, Africa, and Central and South America.

**The Concerto Through Time** You study how the concerto (a composition for soloist(s) and orchestra) developed over the period from 1650 to 1910.

**Introduction to Music Theory** This covers reading and writing music, keys, scales and chords, and structure and form.

**Coursework** – Teacher Assessed, and Moderated by OCR

**30%** of the course is **Performing** (playing an instrument or singing). There are two assessment pieces, one solo and one in a group.

**30%** of the course is **Composing** individually. There are two assessment pieces, one for the candidate's main instrument/voice/software and one based on a stimulus provided by OCR such as a chord progression, a description of an event, or a rhythm.

**Exams** – Externally Assessed by OCR

**Useful resources/ways to improve:**

The following are useful to GCSE students who need help with exam topics and music theory:

**Handbooks:** "OCR GCSE Music Revision Guide" by Rhinegold, ISBN 9781785581618

"First Steps in Music Theory, Grades 1 to 5" by Eric Taylor, OUP, ISBN 978-1860960901

and/or "The AB Guide to Music Theory, Vol 1" by Eric Taylor, OUP, ISBN 978-1854724465

**Plus practice exercises from:** "Music Theory In Practice" series by Eric Taylor, ABRSM, ISBN 978-1860969423 and/or <http://www.mymusictheory.co.uk>

Be receptive to all sorts of music and performance.

Play an active part in the many extra-curricular music activities run by the school.

# COURSE OVERVIEW —MUSIC

## YEAR 10

SEPT 2019 - JULY 2020 *Topics to be studied during the first year of the course.*

### The GCSE Course

- What you have to do for GCSE Music
- Performing
- Composing
- Listening and Appraising

### Reading and Writing Music

- The Basics
- Clefs
- Sharps, Flats and Naturals
- Time Signatures
- Rhythms and Meters
- Notes and Rests
- Tempo and Mood

### Conventions of Pop

- Voices in Pop
- Instruments of Pop
- Influences of Pop
- Rock 'n' Roll
- Pop Ballads

### Rhythms of the World

- Indian Classical Music
- Bhangra
- Greek Music
- Palestinian Music
- Israeli Music
- Calypso
- Samba

### Keys, Scales and Chords

- Major and Minor Scales
- The Circle of Fifths
- Intervals
- Chords—Triads
- Inversions
- Phrases and Cadences
- Modulations

### Film Music

- Film Music—Characteristics
- Classical Music In Films
- Game Music

### Structure and Form

- Common Melodic Devices
- Common Forms
- Popular Song Forms
- Improvisation

### Instruments

- Brass Instruments
- Woodwind Instruments
- Orchestral Strings
- Keyboard Instruments
- Percussion
- The Voice
- Wind, Brass and Jazz Bands
- Chamber Music
- The Orchestra
- Music Technology
- Timbre

## YEAR 11

SEPT 2020 - JUNE 2021 *Topics to be studied during the second year of the course.*

### The Concerto Through Time

- The Baroque Style
- Baroque Structures
- Baroque Melody Patterns
- Ornaments in Baroque Music
- The Baroque Solo Concerto
- The Baroque Concerto Grosso
- From Baroque to Classical
- The Classical Orchestra
- The Classical Style
- Classical Structures
- The Classical Concerto
- The Romantic Period
- The Romantic Concerto

### Reading and Writing Music

- Dynamics and Articulation
- More Instructions

### Keys, Scales and Chords

- Modes and Other Types of Scale
- Texture

### Dictation Focus

- Melodies and Rhythms

### Exam preparation and study skills



"I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand." **Confucius**