



Edexcel
GCSE MUSIC
 (GCSE 9-1)

The Music Department are pleased to be able to offer the Edexcel GCSE Music. Below is an overview of the course as well as other information that will be of use to students considering this as an option.

Course Overview:

Coursework unit / Exam title	Details
Composition 30%	You will complete two compositions during the course which are assessed internally and then moderated externally. Composition 1 is a free composition which students will complete during Year 10 whilst there is a set brief for composition 2 which must be completed in Year 11.
Performance 30%	You will complete two performances during the course which are internally assessed and then moderated externally. Both performance recordings must take place in Year 11, with one being a solo performance and the other an ensemble (group) performance.

Please note that the coursework units combine to give 60% of the overall mark for this course

Listening Paper (Exam) 40%	At the end of the course you will sit a listening examination which will cover the four areas of study that you have learned about in lessons. For each area of study you will look at two focus works, which are listed below, as well as a range of other pieces in each style.	
	Area of Study	Set works
	Instrumental Music 1700-1820	3rd Movement from Brandenburg Concerto no. 5 in D (JS Bach) 1st Movement from Piano Sonata no. 8 in C minor 'Pathétique' (Beethoven)
	Vocal Music	H Purcell: Music for a While (Purcell) Killer Queen: from the album 'Sheer Heart Attack' (Queen)
	Music for Stage and Screen	Defying Gravity, from the album of the cast recording of Wicked (Schwartz) Main title/Rebel Blockade Runner, from Star Wars IV: A New Hope (J Williams)
Fusions	Release, from the album 'Volume 2:Release' (Afro Celt Sound System) Samba Em Preludio, from the album 'Esperanza' (Esperanza Spalding)	

Students will receive **five** hours of lessons over the two week timetable for this course. In addition there will be compulsory after school sessions at various points during the two years which students will be expected to attend. Notification for these will be given in advance.

How is it graded?

Students will receive a mark for each part of the course that they complete. These marks will then combine to give an overall grade of 9-1.

Recommended Entry Requirements

It is recommended that all students opting for this course will:

- be competent, to at least grade 1/2 standard at the beginning of the course, on at least one instrument (inc. voice) *NB: actual grade exam do not have to have been taken*
- be receiving regular tuition of their chosen instrument (inc. voice)
- have a passion for music
- be able to work independently
- strive to achieve their very best in all aspects of the course

Resources

Students will have full use of:

- 15 iMac computers in M1
- Recording studio
- Recording mixing room (inc. iMac computer & mixing desk)
- Sibelius (music notation) & Logic (sequencing) software
- Microphones
- MIDI keyboards
- Pianos
- Practice rooms



iMacs, in M1, running Sibelius and Logic for students

Other opportunities for GCSE Music students

- invited to perform solos in concerts and recital evenings.
- Visits from and workshops with professional musicians
- trips to see performances by professional musicians

GCSE students also have priority when booking practice rooms and the recording studio.

For more information about this course please visit: <http://qualifications.pearson.com> or email: c.drake@wpsc.org.uk