

## MUSIC - Option

Examination Board: OCR



The GCSE Music Course is suitable for all students with an enthusiasm for Music, although the ability to play a musical instrument is desirable. The course gives students an opportunity to explore their instrument, as well as a variety of styles of music that they may not necessarily come across in their regular music-making.

### Course Content:

The course is based on **four Areas of Study** which build on topics and knowledge covered in Years 7 – 9.

- 1. MY MUSIC (AoS1)**  
Students study their own instrument or voice, focussing on a piece of music written for your instrument.  
Students must complete performance, appraising and composition tasks based on your studies, which is all part of controlled coursework.
- 2. SHARED MUSIC (AoS2)**  
Students explore the relationships and roles of voices in instruments in a variety of ensemble music. The following textures are studied:
  - Voice and accompaniment (Romantic song (lieder) and pop ballads)
  - Music contrasting one solo instrument with orchestra/band (Classical concerto/jazz)
  - Ensembles (Indian classical music, Gamelan, Baroque and Classical chamber music)
  - Large vocal ensembles (the great choral classics, African *a capella* singing)
- 3. DANCE MUSIC (AoS3)**  
Students Study different types of dance music from across the ages:
  - Paired dance (Waltz, Tango and Salsa)
  - Group/folk/synchronised dance (Line Dance (American, Irish Jig and Reel) and Bhangra)
  - Improvised dance (Disco and Club Dance)
- 4. DESCRIPTIVE MUSIC (AoS4)**  
Students study descriptive music from the Romantic period to the present day:
  - Programme Music (Symphonic music from 1820 onwards)
  - Film Music

### **Coursework and Examinations:**

#### **Unit B351: Integrated Tasks (30%)**

A performance, a composition and a commentary, all related to Area of Study 1 (the composition and commentary are all part of controlled coursework, i.e. undertaken under timed conditions)

#### **Unit B352: Practical Portfolio (30%)**

A portfolio containing a group performance relating to Area of Study 2, a composition relating to Area of Study 2, 3 or 4 and a log and commentary (composition and log are part of controlled coursework)

#### **Unit B353: Creative Task (15%)**

A timed task drawing on understanding gained from an area of study, in which candidates develop a short piece and communicate it, based on a stimulus.

#### **Unit B354: Listening Test (25%)**

A written paper, with CD, assessing knowledge and understanding of Areas of Study 2, 3 and 4.

**For further information please contact Miss H Doan**