

Subject Title	GCSE Music (Edexcel)
Assessment	40% Exam, 60% Controlled Assessment (Composing and Performing)
Expectations outside of classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To practice performance pieces for your performance controlled assessments (which are worth 15% each of the final grade). To take instrumental lessons in or outside of college (highly preferable but not an absolute must). To complete homework tasks which involve researching composers, learning keywords, completing music theory exercises etc.
Course description	<p>Edexcel GCSE Music is divided into three units:</p> <p>Unit 1: PERFORMING! This unit is your opportunity to use your skills and talents of performing music. You have to perform 4 minutes worth of music (which is recorded and sent for moderation). This must include at least one solo piece and one ensemble piece of any style on any instrument or voice. We do plenty of preparation for this in class, especially performing in small groups and class "jam-sessions", but a lot of work for this will be done with your instrumental teacher and in your practice at home. Having instrumental lessons is really going to help you prepare for this part of the course, but it is not an absolute must.</p> <p>Unit 2: COMPOSING In this unit you turn your skills to writing music and using your creative flair. You will be required to compose two pieces that, when combined, equal about 3 mins in length. We will have a go at song writing, composing for different instruments and trying out different styles. These are also recorded and sent off to Edexcel for moderation.</p> <p>Unit 3: LISTENING AND APPRAISING This unit is all about preparation for the exam. You will learn about 8 pieces in great detail, and these 8 pieces are divided into 4 Areas of Study. The 8 pieces are all different and each one is a different style and from a different period of time. All the variety means that there is always something to suit everyone's tastes. It's a great way to learn more and more about music.</p> <p>Area of Study 1 – Instrumental Music 1700 - 1820 Area of Study 2 – Vocal Music Area of Study 3 – Music for Stage and Screen Area of Study 4 – Fusions</p> <p>BENEFITS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trips to the theatre and concerts • Responsibility with extra-curricular activities and leadership opportunities • Group work and relationship building • Heavy weighting of controlled assessment (coursework) • Leads you on to A Level and further musical study and engagement.

