

# Music: A-level (Awarding Body WJEC)

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above at GCSE Music.

Grade 5 ABRSM equivalent Music Theory preferable but not essential.

## CONTENT

### First Year

Component one: Performing (35%) - Working towards a performance consisting of a minimum of three pieces for internal assessment at ABRSM/RSL Grade 6 equivalent or above.

Component 2: Composing (25%) - Working towards a composition in the Western Classical Tradition (Baroque to Pop) for completion and internal moderation in Year one.

Component 3: Appraising (40%) - Appraisal research of three areas of study:

Area of study A: The Western Classical Tradition  
(The Development of the Symphony 1750-1900)

A choice of one area of study from:

- Area of study B: Rock and Pop
- Area of study C: Musical Theatre
- Area of study D: Jazz

Then a further choice between these two areas of study:

- Area of study E: Into the Twentieth Century
- Area of study F: Into the Twenty-first Century

### Second Year

Component one: Performing (35%) - Final Performances  
Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner

Component 2: Composing (25%) - Submission of First year 'free' composition with a composition to a brief released in September of Y13. Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by WJEC

Component 3: Appraising (40%) - As above with summative written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes (approximately)

## PROGRESSION

***'Music graduates are more employable than you might think'* - The Guardian.**

Following an A-Level in Music, students go on to both Conservatoires and Universities to study Music but also with an incredibly adaptable skillset, musicians are more and more sought after in general FE and employment.

## GENERAL COMMENTS

During the course you will:

- Develop your instrumental/vocal techniques and explore how they are applied in a wide range of repertoire
- Develop knowledge and understanding of advanced harmony, theoretical analysis and appraisal of the greatest music throughout the ages
- Plan and apply developing knowledge in two compositions for your portfolio
- Perform music to the highest of standards in a supportive, exciting, encouraging and challenging environment



A-level Music has really helped me to develop and extend my knowledge of performance, theory and appraising in music. I did well in my GCSE and taking A-level Music was an obvious option for me. There are lots of extra-curricular opportunities in Music across a diverse range of genres.

I love singing in the choir and our wonderful cake Friday listening to and analysing music! This course has developed my fundamental musical knowledge and the practical skills which in turn has led to me wanting a career on stage in musical theatre!

**GEORGIE O'REILLY**

