

GCSE MUSIC 2017-2020

OCR 9-1



AN OVERVIEW

- Learners will have to complete:
 - A Performance on their chosen instrument
 - A composition in a style chosen by them including a score
 - An ensemble performance
 - A composition set by OCR including a score
- A listening paper based on Area of Study 2, 3, 4 & 5 – 90 minutes

- 60% is coursework
- 40% is an exam at the end of the course.

WHAT ARE THE AREAS OF STUDY?

Area of study 1: My Music

This is all about their chosen instrument – how it works, how well they play it, how it is used in various styles of music etc

- Coursework linked to this area includes:
 - A Performance on their chosen instrument
 - A composition in a style chosen by them including a score

WHAT ARE THE AREAS OF STUDY?

All these styles of music could appear in the music listening exam


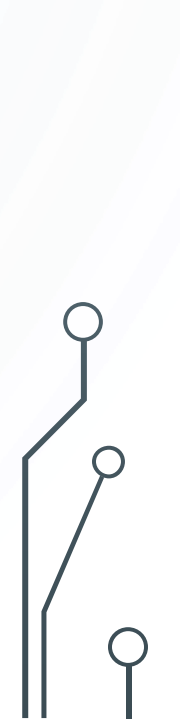
- **Area of study 2: The Concerto Through Time**
 - This about various periods of music and the part the Concerto plays within it.
 - Specifically we will be looking at The Baroque Solo Concerto, The Baroque Concerto Grosso, the Classical Concerto and the Romantic Concerto
- **Area of Study 3: Rhythms of the World**
 - This has a focus on four geographical regions of the world: India and Punjab, Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East, Africa, Central and South America.
 - Integral to this is an understanding of rhythm, including reading it, writing it, understanding it, and definitely counting it.
- **Area of Study 4: Film Music**
 - What it says on the tin really; we will studying a range of film music, including a variety of eras, and also how music is used as soundtrack for video games
- **Area of Study 5: Conventions of Pop**
 - This includes: Rock 'n' Roll of the 50's and 60's, Rock Anthems of the 70's and 80's, Pop Ballads of the 70's, 80's and 90's, and Solo Artists from 1990 to the present day.
 - This will be a lot about how voices and instruments interact, and how styles have developed through time

HOW GOOD DO I NEED TO BE AT MY INSTRUMENT?

- Learners do need to have a basic ability on one instrument (voice is an instrument) to start GCSE Music – however they can sign up for instrument lessons in order to progress.
 - They need to feel confident that they can play complete pieces (of their choice) on their chosen instrument when they start GCSE music; these do not need to be hugely complicated or difficult pieces, as long as they feel confident performing them.
 - They can use more than one instrument on the course, but this is not compulsory – they will need one chosen instrument as their main study.
 - They will need to take part in extra-curricular music groups – This will greatly support their wider understanding of musicianship skills.
 - They will need to have a basic understanding of music theory as the course is quite heavily theory based. We will develop their understanding on the course but you must be prepared to write musical scores and notation.
- range of instruments and apply music theory to a range of contexts.



I'VE NEVER COMPOSED MY OWN MUSIC BEFORE...

- That's ok, that's part of what we're here to learn. As long as they are keen to expand their skills as a musician and can approach their learning creatively, youngsters will be absolutely fine.
 - The composition set by OCR (the exam board) is not as bad as it sounds – it's based on the styles of music we will study from the Areas of Study, so will work alongside the knowledge they are developing.
- 
- 

WHAT ABOUT THE EXAM?

- The exam will cover the styles of music that we study throughout the course from the Areas of Study, learners need to be prepared to study, revise and listen to music throughout the course to be successful in this area.
- There is an element of music theory throughout including music notation, language and dictation. the exam.

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO TAKE GCSE MUSIC?

- Nothing compulsory, but there are some things that might be useful:
 - We will be learning to read and write various aspects of music theory throughout the course, however getting a head start on this will only make their GCSE experience easier and more successful.
 - Be prepared to appreciate music – we'd be lying if we said we liked every piece of music we've ever heard, but be prepared to listen to it and appreciate its place in music history.
 - Be prepared to collaborate with other musicians, and to share their thoughts and opinions. Be prepared to enjoy themselves – there will be times when Music GCSE challenges their thinking and there will be times it's hard work.

The background features a light blue circular gradient. In the four corners, there are decorative line-art elements resembling circuit traces or neural network connections, with small circles at the end of the lines.

ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS?

Please do feel free to contact Mr Philpott with any further questions you might have: rphilpott@honywoodschoo.com