

Sixth Form Courses

A-Level Music Edexcel

Why take this subject?

Music is a highly regarded academic subject and whether you take it with a view to a career in music or as an additional A-level subject, it is held in high esteem by universities and other institutions of higher education. Most people, however, study Music because they love it and you will have plenty of practical opportunities to develop your talents.

What do I need to have studied at GCSE?

At least five GCSEs at grades A*-Bs including GCSE Music. We do require that all students who take A-Level Music continue to have instrumental/vocal lessons and take part in at least one enrichment musical group. The A-level music course is linear, meaning that all the exams will be sat at the end of the course.

What will we study?

Component 1: Performing (30%) – Performances for any instrument(s)/voice or number of pieces, allowing improvisation and music technology

Component 2: Composing (30%) - Composition will include a free-choice and a set brief assessing compositional technique at A-level.

Component 3: Appraising (40%) - Musical elements, contexts and language are taught through six Areas of Study: Vocal Music, Music for Film, Fusions, Instrumental Music, Popular Music and Jazz & New Directions. Each Area of Study has 3 set works for A-Level.

This A-Level Music course is a 2-year course and is examined in the June of year 13

How will I be examined?

AS Music

Component 1: Performing 30% non-exam assessment	1 or more performances Total time of 8 minutes	60 marks with 12 available for difficulty of pieces
Component 2: Composing 30% non-exam assessment	2 compositions Total minimum of 6 mins	30 marks each Total of 60 marks
Component 3: Appraising 40% exam	6 Areas of Study with 3 set works in each	Exam 1hr 30mins Total 100 marks

What super curricular opportunities will be available to me?

As part of the course, you will be involved weekly in rehearsals, trips and musical events, in and outside Hertswood. Due to the independent nature of the course, much of the progress happens between lessons.

What can this subject lead to?

This course is aimed at preparing you for the world of music or further courses to take you deeper into music at university or conservatoire.