

KEY STAGE FOUR PATHWAYS

Subject Title:	GCSE Music
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Examination Board:	www.aqa.org.uk

Course Content

Musical language/content

The musical references made below under the heading The Organisation of Sounds form the basis for the exploration of the components/strands within GCSE Music. The whole musical experience of this course – both teaching and learning will be centered on them.

Candidates will be expected to be able to understand notation suitable to the occasion, including staff notation.

Pupils will study three components within the course: Understanding Music, Performing and Composing.

These will be explored through set works in the following two strands:

- The Western Classical Tradition 1650-1910
- Traditional music (Externally assessed)

Tiers

The Scheme of assessment consists of one tier covering the entire ability range of grades 9 - 1

Assessment

Composing

30%: Controlled Assessment

2 x compositions to be completed in school time

- 15% - Yr 10 – a 'free' composition (25 hrs to complete, Internally assessed)
- 15% - Yr 11 – set to a brief released by AQA in the year of entry. (25 hrs to complete, Internally assessed)

Listening to and Appraising Music

40%: 1.5 hour written examination- May Year 11 A mixture of unfamiliar music and questions on the set works.

Externally assessed.

Performing Music

30 %: Controlled Assessment (Recorded at school)

- Solo performance (15% internally assessed and externally moderated)
- Ensemble performance (15% - internally assessed and externally moderated)

Over the course pupils will learn:

- Basic notation
- Perform and compose in a variety of different musical genres
- Basic keyboard technique
- Music technology skills.

In order to be successful in this course, students must have the confidence and the technical ability to perform solo on at least one instrument; this includes vocals.

