

Music / Cerddoriaeth

Subject Leader: Mr C Keates

Examination Board: WJEC

Essential GCSE's: Music (C or above)

Desirable GCSE's: Any

Course Outline

AS level

| Area | % of Mark – AS | % of Mark - A Level | Requirements |
|------------|----------------|---------------------|--|
| Performing | 30% | 15% | Solo and/or ensemble performance for a visiting examiner. |
| Composing | 30% | 15% | Two contrasting compositions. |
| Appraising | 40% | 20% | A listening examination based upon a study of a wide range of music from the Western Classical tradition and other musical styles. |

A2

| Area | % of Mark - A2 | % of Mark - A Level | Requirements |
|------------|----------------|---------------------|--|
| Performing | 30%* | 15%* | Solo and/or ensemble performance for a visiting examiner. |
| Composing | 30%* | 15%* | Two contrasting compositions. |
| Appraising | 30%* | 15%* | A listening examination based upon a wide range of music from the Western Art movement of the 20 th and 21 st centuries. |

***Please note that in A2, each pupil must select one area of study to have a further 10% weighting (5% of the total A level) in accordance with their specialist area: performing, composing or appraising. Details of the requirements for this extra percentage are shown below.**

| Specialist Area | Extra 5% |
|-----------------|---|
| Performing | A further 6 minutes in the performing assessment. |
| Composing | An extra composition. |
| Appraising | An extra 45 minutes in the listening exam. |

Entry Requirements

It is highly desirable that candidates have obtained a GCSE at grade C or above, but this is not a prerequisite. For those who have not taken GCSE Music, Grade V Practical and Grade V Theory examinations would be suitable. A commitment to participate in the musical life of the school will enable you to:

- (i) support your studies in class
- (ii) develop greater confidence as a performer
- (iii) share your skills with other students
- (iv) develop leadership skills.

Potential students must be instrumentalists or singers. They must be committed to improving their understanding of music.

What will I study?

AS level

Two set works will be studied, chosen from the Western Classical Tradition and other musical styles. As well as this, pupils will develop their aural perception.

A2

Pupils will study Western Art Music of the 20th and 21st centuries as well as historical and analytical study of a chosen set work. Pupils will also further their aural and stylistic perception.

Teaching Methods

Discussion, note taking, problem solving, practical performing and composing, essays, theory and private study.

How will I be assessed?

Performing

Your recital will be examined by an external examiner.

Composing

Your compositions will be assessed by your teachers and then moderated externally.

Appraising

You will sit an appraising examination which will be marked externally.

The examinations are only available in May/June. Coursework deadlines will be notified by the Examination Board.

Career Opportunities and Progression

Musical career opportunities include performer, composer, media musician (selecting or arranging music for use in television programmes, films etc), studio musician (sound engineer, recording engineer), arts or concert administrator, teacher (primary, secondary or higher education), music/orchestral librarian, music researcher, music therapist.