

A' Level Music



Exam Board  
Eduqas

Subject



King's  
School

Music Quote

***“Everything in the universe has a rhythm,  
everything dances.” Maya Angelou***

**Course entry requirements:** Minimum 5 GCSEs at Grade 9-4 or Grade 4 and above. Music at Grade 6 or evidence of performance skills.

**Why should I study subject:** Music is an essential part of the human experience. It allows us to unleash creativity and communicate ideas and emotions through sound. Music connects us to different cultures and times. It is a science as well as an art form, which means it will help you build your problem solving, research, planning, analytical and critical thinking skills.

**What does the course look like?**

### **Component 1: Performing**

**Option A: Total duration of performances: 10-12 minutes Option A: 35% of qualification**

**Option B: Total duration of performances: 6-8 minutes Option B: 25% of qualification**

*Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner*

**Option A: Performing (35%) A performance consisting of a minimum of three pieces. At least one of these pieces must be as a soloist.** The other pieces may be either as a soloist or as part of an ensemble or a combination of both.

**Option B: Performing (25%) A performance consisting of a minimum of two pieces either as a soloist or as part of an ensemble or a combination of both.** One piece must reflect the musical characteristics of one area of study.

### **Component 2: Composing**

**Option A: Total duration of compositions: 4-6 minutes Option A: 25% of qualification**

**Option B: Total duration of compositions: 8-10 minutes Option B: 35% of qualification**

*Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by WJEC*

**Option A: Composing (25%) Two compositions, one of which must reflect the musical techniques and conventions associated with the Western Classical Tradition and be in response to a brief set by WJEC. One is a free composition.**

**Option B: Composing (35%) Three compositions, one of which must reflect the musical techniques and conventions associated with the Western Classical Tradition and be in response to a brief set by WJEC.** The second composition must reflect the musical characteristics of one different area of study (i.e. not the Western Classical Tradition) while the third composition is a free composition.

### **Component 3: Appraising**

**Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes (approximately) 40% of qualification**

Three areas of study: Area of study A: The Western Classical Tradition (The Development of the Symphony 1750-1900) which includes two set works. Choose one set work for detailed analysis and the other for general study.

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

**A choice of one area of study from:**

Area of study E: Into the Twentieth Century including two set works.

Area of study F: Into the Twenty-first Century including two set works.

Questions:

1. Set work analysis with a score
2. Extended responses on wider context
3. Unprepared extracts of music with and without a score
4. Comparison questions

**How will I learn?** Lessons are taught in small groups with resources made and adapted to suit the individual needs of each student. Lessons will be divided between departmental teachers.

**What kind of things might the subject lead me to?** Music is a traditional academic subject recognised by all universities, including Oxbridge. Many students go on to study Music at either university or music college, but for others it is a lifelong love alongside pursued other careers. There are a wide range of career options available as a performer, composer, or many other related musical careers. There are degree courses available in Music Technology which could lead to careers in music production and recording, live sound, composition for film and games and more.