GCSE Music

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| **Course Details** | **Edexcel (Pearson) GCSE Music (1MU0/03)**  The subject content for GCSE Music is divided into three components:   * Performance (Solo & Ensemble) * Composition (one free, the other set to a brief) * Listening and Appraising   Areas of study: Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Music for Stage and Screen, Fusions |
| **Exam Details** | **Listening and Appraising -** Written exam: 1 hour and 45 minutes, 40% of GCSE,  **Questions -** The paper is made up of two sections.  **Section A**: Areas of study, dictation and unfamiliar pieces (68 marks)   * Six questions related to six of the eight set works * One short melody/rhythm completion exercise * One question on an unfamiliar piece (skeleton score provided) with questions on its musical elements   **Section B**: Extended response comparison between a set work and one unfamiliar piece (12 marks)   * One question that asks students to compare and/or evaluate the musical elements, musical contexts and musical language of one set work with one unfamiliar piece of music. |
| **Other Assessment** | **Controlled Assessments** (Internally marked, externally moderated)  **Performance** 30%(30 marks)  One solo performance: Duration of 1 ½ minutes  **Composition** 30% (30 marks)  One free composition: Duration of 2 minutes |
| **Subject support** | Pupils are expected to undertake weekly instrumental or vocal lessons on their first study instrument in order to ensure their progress in this area. There will be a composers’ lab offered after school for those who wish to gain more experience composing and using Sibelius. |
| **Revision Guidance** | **Listening and Appraising -** Students will need to ensure they are entirely familiar with all eight set works and that their theoretical knowledge is of a standard whereby they are able to analyze written music. Also, a competent aural ability will need to be developed in order to be able to appraise music based purely on its sonic components.  **Performing -** Your daughter, along with their peripatetic instrument tutor, will keep a log of the progress made in performance. They will be required to practice most days at home to ensure their continued development.  **Composing -** Students will be required to have a working knowledge of Sibelius as this is the software they will use to notate their compositions. |
| **Useful Websites I can refer to:** | BBC Bitesize: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zpf3cdm>  https://www.senecalearning.com  <http://www.musictheory.net/>  <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/music-2016.html>  <https://www.hooktheory.com/>  <http://intranet/students/departments/music/KS4/Forms/AllItems.aspx> |
| **What can I do?** | Ensure your daughter attends her instrumental lessons and completes all homework assignments. Encourage her to take part in extracurricular music activities like orchestra and concerts. |
| **What does your daughter need to do to succeed in this subject?** | Maintain a positive attitude and an inquisitive mind. Be willing to work hard on theoretical practices as well as the practical elements of the course. Listen to a wide variety to musical styles and build a familiarity with music from all genres and eras. Feel comfortable experimenting in musical areas that they may have little or no previous knowledge of. |
| **What does your daughter need to do to excel in this subject?** | Use the facilities at school in and out of lessons to gain as much exposure to the compositional element as they can. Spend time researching all music styles to help them understand the elements of those covered by the syllabus from all the areas of study. Habitual and regimented instrument practice. Also, taking part in musical activities and ensemble as well as those which are offered at school (Gigs, concerts, youth music programs). |