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.
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| **Other Assessment** | **Controlled Assessments** (Internally marked, externally moderated):**Performance** 30%(30 marks)One solo performance & One ensemble performance*Combined duration of 4 minutes***Composition** 30% (30 marks)One free composition & One set to a brief given by the exam board (YR11)*Combined duration of 2 1/2 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 on Mondays. This will be a dedicated opportunity for coursework intervention. |
| **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 child, 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. They should aim for 20 minutes practice a day.**Composing -** Students will be required to have a working knowledge of Soundtrap of Musescore, as this will be the software used to record their composing. |
| **Useful Websites I can refer to:** | - [Exam specification](https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/music-2016.html)- Revision podcasts: [Mr Parsons - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJdILWyLBumAwF8_kfWmd-Q)- Revision: [Seneca - Learn 2x Faster (senecalearning.com)](https://app.senecalearning.com/classroom/course/8a9f121c-bdb0-42db-bbd6-a88f8f723518/section/2220250b-5009-46b3-bde9-0d6b3f9d4634/session)-[Playlistofallthesetworks](https://open.spotify.com/playlist/03NcLo0KNIJyn1BEagHxTE?si=19c3198173444b83)- MS Team for all revision notes- [Revision kahoots!](https://create.kahoot.it/share/sws-for-yr10-mock/349f9084-b210-4770-bd5d-81b2a75e6d41) |
| **What can I do?** | Ensure your child attends all instrumental lessons and completes all homework assignments. Encourage them to take part in extracurricular music activities like orchestra, choir, rock band and concerts.  |
| **What does your child 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 child 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). |