

Curriculum Overview:		
Course Edexcel GCSE Music		
Performance 30%	Composition 30%	Aural musicology 40%
Internally assessed One solo performance One ensemble performance Overview of assessment Recordings of both solo and ensemble performances (on CD/MD/MP3) Scores, professional recordings or written commentary (for Realisation) for both performances	Internally assessed Two compositions, or Two arrangements, or One composition and one arrangement Overview of assessment Recordings of both compositions/arrangements (on CD/MD/MP3) Notated scores or written commentaries for both compositions/arrangements	Knowledge and study of set works in the Areas of Study Overview of assessment A 1-hour and 30-minute written paper All questions relate to the set works The paper will be in two sections Section A: eight compulsory questions in response to extracts from the set works that will be played on a CD during the examination (68 marks) Section B: one question from two optional questions on the set works, requiring extended writing (12 marks) A total of 80 marks for the paper.

The Four Areas of Study

Students must be able to answer these questions for each set work:

- What instruments, voice samples and sounds are used, and in what combinations, throughout the piece?
- Is there an accepted name for this group of instruments, for example orchestra/rock band?
- Musical elements - How has the composer/artist used the musical elements of pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture and structure throughout the piece?
- Have any rhythmic and melodic devices been used?
- What are the main tonal and harmonic features of the music?
- Do you like/dislike the piece and why?

Homework & Assessments Overview:

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Composition Task	Aural Mock Exam	Written MOCK Exam
Written exam and essay on Western Classical Music 1600 - 1899	Final Composition	
Performance Assessment	Performance Assessment	GCSE WRITTEN EXAM 5 th June 2015

Useful Websites:

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HnKFUNizi4E&list=RDHnKFUNizi4E#t=430>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HnKFUNizi4E&list=RD7VS3MRLCrX8&index=3>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dffUS2oI850&safe=active>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwCFHSbHwNE&safe=active>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=olwVvbWd-tg&safe=active>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5dOI2MtvbA&safe=active>
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c6fw_JEKT6Q&safe=active

Practical tips / activities for parents to support learning at home:

- Encourage the wider listening of a broad range of musical styles and genres.
- Ensure your child has two performance pieces and is practising on their instrument regularly.
- Nightly revision of set works.
- Attend morning practise clubs and working on music compositions.
- Writing practise essays – using revision websites to revise for the extended writing component.