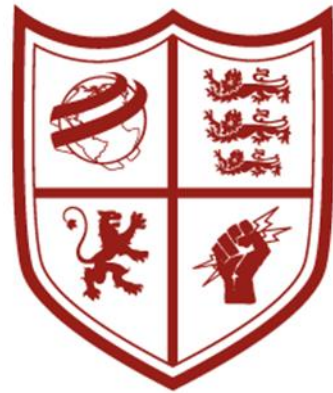


GCSE MUSIC



Stretford
Grammar School

Aspirat primo fortuna labori



Elements of the course

- Unit 1 Performance
- Unit 2 Composition
- Unit 3 Listening and Appraising



GCSE Music Unit 1 Performance **30% of the exam**

- Students will perform a minimum of 4 minutes.
- 2 / 3 pieces are performed – solo and ensemble.
- Students need to be at least Grade 4 / 5 ABRSM by Year 11 in order to be able to access the highest marks.



GCSE Music Unit 2 Composition 30% of the exam

- Students will compose 2 pieces of Music.
- 1 piece is a free choice instrumental piece which is almost completed in Year 10.
- The 2nd piece is set by the exam board in September of Year 11 by the exam board and there are various options.



GCSE Music Unit 3 Appraising and Analysis 40% of the exam

- Students will study 8 pieces of Music from 4 different Areas of study that covers Music from Baroque through to Modern day.
- Pieces are analysed so they are able to recall facts in the listening exam and apply the knowledge and features to other similar pieces.



Set Works

Area of Study 1 - Instrumental Music

- Bach - 3rd Movement from Brandenburg Concerto No. 5 in D Major.
- Beethoven – 1st Movement from Piano Sonata No.8 in C Minor

Area of Study 2 – Vocal Music



- Purcell – Music for a While.
- Queen – Killer Queen (from the Album Sheer Heart Attack)



Set Works

Area of Study 3 - Music for Stage and Screen

- Schwartz – Defying Gravity from the Musical Wicked.
- John Williams – Main title / Rebel Blockade Runner from the Soundtrack to Star Wars Episode IV A New Hope

Area of Study 4 – Fusions Music

- Afro Celt Sound System - Release.
- Esperanza Spalding – Samba Em Preludio



Structure of the Lessons

- There are 5 lessons per fortnight.
- Double lessons are possible.



Structure of the written paper

Section A

- 6 Listening questions based on the set works.
- 1 rhythm and dictation question also based on the set works.
- 1 unfamiliar listening piece which relates / links to the set works.

Section B

- A 12 mark essay question comparing a set work to a similar unheard piece.



Written exam

- Exam lasts for 1 hour 45 minutes
- Total 80 marks for the paper
- Section A 68 marks
- Section B 12 marks



Why should I take GCSE Music?

- It is a very academic subject and you can continue it to A Level.
- You may consider a career in Music or performing Arts when you leave school.
- Small classes.
- You are talented so can take it as an option.
- It contrasts with your other subjects.
- It uses many skills that are valued by employers and Universities.
- Great results year on year.
- You will get great teaching!



Are there any questions?

Please feel free to email k.swales@stretfordgrammar.com for more information or to discuss your child's suitability for the course.



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