



OVERVIEW

Our GCSE Music course is aligned to the Eduqas GCSE Music specification. There are 3 components: Performing (30%); Composing (30%) and Appraising (40%). The main focus of Y10 is to Develop skills across all 3 components and study all Areas of Study. Pupils are encouraged to take lessons with MAPAS Music Service to support with their performing work. Singing is integral to our curriculum at ICA and we encourage pupils to join our school choir (available through the ASPIRE offer).

Autumn

During the first term pupils are welcomed to the department and understand the expectations of the course over the following two years.

During the first term pupils are introduced to the key skills required across all 3 Components of the course. Pupils will become more familiar with how to read a range of notation methods – e.g. staff notation, chord symbols, etc. Alongside this, pupils explore composition through an iterative approach with guidance on how to control melody and harmony.

Pupils begin studying AoS4 – Popular Music by considering a range of styles and music concepts – e.g. pop, reggae, etc.

Assessment:

Teacher Assessment via Recall Questions etc.

Performance / Composition Assessment

Vocabulary-based Assessment

Personal development:

Building on KS3 Music – adopting a more informed, mature approach to both music making and musical analysis

Spring

Pupils continue to develop both their solo and ensemble performing skills. Feedback is regularly provided to pupils from both staff, peers and themselves.

Pupils now begin their Free Composition – initially through the medium of songwriting before exploring other approaches, e.g. EDM, folk musics, etc.

Pupils complete their studies of AoS4 and complete the End of Unit Assessment.

Following this, pupils begin studying AoS1 – Musical Forms and Devices by considering a range of styles and music concepts – e.g. Western Classical Tradition, Musical Forms, Musical Devices and Harmony

Assessment:

Teacher Assessment via Recall Questions etc.

Performance / Composition Assessment

Vocabulary-based Assessment

Personal development:

Developing skills across all 3 components of the GCSE Music course

Summer

Pupils continue to develop both their solo and ensemble performing skills. Feedback is regularly provided to pupils from both staff, peers and themselves. During this final term of Y10, pupils perform their repertoire to their Music Teacher and a decision is made as to whether easier repertoire is required.

During this final term of Y10, pupils complete their Free Composition and complete the relevant entry in their Composing Log via the Eduqas template.

Pupils study AoS2 – Music for Ensemble (e.g. jazz and blues, musical theatre, etc.) and AoS3 – Film Music – e.g. leitmotif and minimalism

Assessment:

Teacher Assessment via Recall Questions etc.

Performance / Composition Assessment

Vocabulary-based Assessment

Personal development:

Completing Year 1 of the GCSE Music course

Useful resources for supporting your child at home:

BBC Bitesize
Focus on Sound

Homework:

Pupils complete 1 hour of Music Homework per week which consists of a mixture of performing and composing (recordings of work-in-progress) and appraising tasks via Focus on Sound.