

QUEEN'S GATE SCHOOL
MUSIC
A-LEVEL GUIDE



WHY STUDY MUSIC A-LEVEL?

A Level Music offers a unique opportunity to delve deeper into the world of music. It's not just for aspiring musicians, but for anyone who appreciates the art form and wants to develop valuable skills applicable to various fields. Taught at Queen's Gate School using the Edexcel syllabus, our course provides a supportive and stimulating learning environment.

- Prestigious and academic
- Transferrable skills
- Valuable for university
- Fascinating for music lovers
- Suitable for GCSE or Grade 7/8 instrumentalists

ASSESSMENT

Component 1 – Performing Music	This unit presents the opportunity to perform one or more pieces in the form of a recital. The piece(s) can be in any chosen style and can be presented as a soloist or part of an ensemble. The recital should be a minimum of 8 minutes. This is worth 30% of the total A grade.
Component 2 – Composing Music	This unit focuses on the further development of compositional skills leading to the creation of two compositions, one to a brief OR a free composition, and the other from a list of briefs assessing compositional technique. The total time for both compositions must be a minimum of 6 minutes. This is worth 30% of the total A grade.
Component 3 – Appraising	This unit focuses on developing listening skills through a range of familiar and unfamiliar music, including set works from the areas of study. It also involves writing extended responses about how music works. Assessment is through a two-hour listening exam, set and marked by Edexcel, held at the end of the year. This exam accounts for 40% of the final A-level grade.

NEXT STEPS AND CAREER INFORMATION

An A Level in Music opens doors to a wide range of degrees and careers, including:

- Music
- Engineering
- Research
- Music Therapy
- Arts Industries
- Teaching
- Recording
- Publishing

By developing a high level of understanding and a refined musical ear you'll be in an excellent position to enjoy a career in the industry.