

A Level Music



This is an excellent subject for someone who is well motivated, organised, and who has an open, enquiring mind and a desire to communicate. As a sixth form student you will have priority in accessing a whole range of resources in a purpose-built surrounding. In choosing music you will:

- Have regular opportunities to perform throughout the year, both as a soloist and in an ensemble, orchestra and choral society.
- Develop the ability to analyse music helping to lead you to a greater understanding of how to compose and perform music in a variety of styles.
- Learn how computers can aid composition, listening skills and the presentation of coursework. This will involve sequencing, ear-training and notation software.
- Learn to compose music in the style of other composers and in a style of your own choice.
- Develop the ability to research and make presentations to the rest of the group.
- Benefit from learning in a supportive environment that encourages independence and rewards initiative.

Subject specific entry requirements

In addition to the standard entry requirements, the following subject entry criteria should be met:

- 5 in GCSE Music. There is an expectation that all A level music students will take an active role in musical life at Tewkesbury School.

Exam Board

OCR

Assessment

A Level – 2 year course Learners must take components 01, 03 and 05 or 02, 04 and 05		
Performing A (01) or Performing B (02)	01 - Recital - minimum of 6 minutes and two contrasting pieces. Choice of: • solo piece(s) on one or more instruments or voice • ensemble performance (including accompanying) • realisation using music technology	75 Marks (25% of A level) Non-exam, externally assessed via audio-visual recording
	02 - Recital - minimum of 10 minutes and three contrasting pieces. Choice as above. Section 1: Free Choice Section 2: Focused Study	105 Marks (35% of A level) Non-exam assessment – externally assessed via audio-visual recording
Performing A (01) or Performing B (02)	03 - Compositions with a combined duration of at least 8 minutes • One to a brief set by OCR • One to a brief written by the learner • Three short technical exercises	105 Marks (35% of A level) Non-exam assessment – externally assessed via audio recordings
	04 - Compositions with a combined duration of at least 4 minutes • One to a brief set by OCR • One to a brief written by the learner	75 Marks (25% of A level) Non-exam assessment – externally assessed via audio recordings
Listening and appraising (05)	05 - Listening and appraising • Analysing and evaluating music • Familiar and unfamiliar pieces • Prescribed works • Questions based on aural extracts	120 Marks (40% of A level) 2 hr 30 mins written exam including aural extracts

This course will lead to:

Music in any form is a challenging and rewarding subject for all who study it. Degrees in music vary enormously from performance or composition specific to more traditional all round courses or joint honours courses. Obvious careers include performing, composing, promoting and organising events, running education programmes and artist management. Employers in diverse fields such as accountancy and management actively recruit music students for their good communication skills and their ability to consider things on many different levels at once..

Music is the best way to subconsciously analyse, a skill that is transferable outside the classroom. It is the perfect balance between practical and academic study and provides important lessons in self expression and confidence. The social, emotional and academic benefits of studying music are ones you will constantly appreciate in the future.” **Rebecca Preedy**