



What will I learn?	An exciting and expressive course, channelling creativity and developing an enviable range of academic skills. Individuality is encouraged and the focus is very much on the growth and maturity of you as an all-round musician, preparing you for a wide range of careers and/or pastimes.
Highlights	Music students have lots of opportunities to perform and take part in concerts held in school and out throughout the year. They also produce some outstanding compositions and we have useful links with Birmingham Conservatoire's composition department and Stratford's resident orchestra, The Orchestra of the Swan. Members of the orchestra have recorded student compositions and given them expert advice on writing for different instruments. In addition, one A-level student had a piece of Year 13 work published in The British Music Society magazine. Exciting Music Department tours have included trips to New York and Paris.
What are the recommended entry requirements?	It is advisable to have achieved grade 5 both on an instrument/voice and music theory. GCSE music is not essential, but will have provided opportunities for you to experience performance and composition.
How will I be assessed?	<p>Component 1: Appraising Music (40%) Listening, analysis and contextual understanding assessed through a written exam. There are seven areas of study. Students must study Area of Study 1 and choose two from 2-7:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Western classical tradition 1650–1910 (compulsory)2. Pop music3. Music for media4. Music for theatre5. Jazz6. Contemporary traditional music7. Art music since 1910. <p>Component 2: Performance (35%) A performance that lasts between 10 and 12 minutes, recorded in school between March and May. Externally assessed by AQA examiners.</p> <p>Component 3: Composition (25%) Composition to a brief Free composition The compositions should last for between 4 ½ and 6 minutes in total. Externally assessed by AQA examiners.</p>
What are the costs	<p>KS5 always have access to facilities in school, but it is an advantage to have music software (such as Sibelius) at home or on a laptop.</p> <p>You would also be expected to take private instrumental lessons on your chosen performance discipline; these can be provided by the school, or organised privately.</p>
Future Opportunities	Each year students go on to study Music, Music Technology or Musical Theatre at degree level. Students are fully prepared for the move to further education and are supported and advised by staff as to appropriate courses and universities. Universities and employers value Music A-level for its breadth of skills and production of confident and independent students. We maintain contact with all our alumnae and they are always happy to give our current students the benefit of their experiences.

