

# Music

Exam Board: OCR  
Syllabus: J535

## What will I learn?

### Aims

- Stimulate and develop an appreciation and enjoyment of music through an active involvement in listening, composing and, most importantly, performing.
- Develop a perceptive, sensitive and critical response to music of different styles in a cultural and historical context.
- Develop broader life-skills and attributes including critical & creative thinking, aesthetic sensitivity, emotional awareness, cultural understanding, self-discipline, self-confidence and self-motivation.
- To provide you with a secure and varied range of skills, knowledge and understanding, with a natural progression into A-level Music.

Study a broad range of musical styles and disciplines through a focused and practical way, fostering the development of a range of skills, interests and talents.

## How will I be assessed?

75% is coursework: performances and compositions, which are produced and refined throughout the course.

25% is a written exam based on the music studied during the course.

### ***Area of Study 1: My Music***

Candidates select their own choice of either a solo, or ensemble piece in which their instrument plays a significant part. They should study the **context** of the piece, the **role of their instrument** in it and the **techniques** used to create the performance.

- **Performance 1:** a performance of the piece studied
- **Commentary:** (c.500 words):
- **Composition 1:** a piece for the candidate's instrument based on the brief. This can be a solo, or an ensemble in which the candidate's instrument plays a significant part.

### ***Area of Study 2: Shared Music***

- Voice and accompaniment: 19<sup>th</sup> Century song & Pop ballad
- One solo instrument with ensemble: Concerto & Jazz
- Ensembles: Indian classical music, Gamelan & Baroque and Classical music
- Large vocal ensembles: Choral repertoire & African *a cappella* singing.

### ***Area of Study 3: Dance Music***

- Paired dance: Waltz & Latin Dance (Tango, Salsa)
- Group/folk/synchronised dance: Line Dance (American, Irish Jig and Reel) & Bhangra
- Improvised dance: Disco & Club Dance

## Area of Study 4: Descriptive Music

- Programme Music (Symphonic music from 1820 onwards)
- Film Music.

## Style of Teaching and Learning

Both the performance and composition elements of the assessment are very flexible and can be submitted at any time throughout the course. A good coursework submission can guarantee a B or even an A before sitting the written exam!

All lessons have a practical element - it is the best way to understanding how music works. You will work in groups, as a whole class and individuals, and are encouraged to be as creative as possible with every given task.

<b>2009</b>	<b>Grade average: 84% (A*)</b>	
	<i>Coursework average: 87% (A)</i>	<i>Exam average: 71% (A)</i>
<b>2010</b>	<b>Grade average: 87% (A*)</b>	
	<i>Coursework average: 91% (A*)</i>	<i>Exam average: 75% (A)</i>
<b>2011</b>	<b>Grade average: 89% (A*)</b>	
	<i>Coursework average: 95% (A*)</i>	<i>Exam average: 83% (A)</i>
<b>2012</b>	<b>Grade average: 90% (A*)</b>	
	<i>Coursework average: 93% (A*)</i>	<i>Exam average: 83% (A)</i>
<b>2013</b>	<b>Grade average: 90% (A*)</b>	
	<i>Coursework average: 93% (A*)</i>	<i>Exam average: 83% (A)</i>
<b>2014</b>	<b>Grade average: 90% (A*)</b>	
	<i>Coursework average: 95% (A*)</i>	<i>Exam average: 84% (A)</i>