WBS – GCSE PREFERENCE INFORMATION 2026 - 2028

GCSE: MUSIC

Examining Board: OCR

Subject Leader: Ms Adams

Teachers: Ms Adams

This is a practical and active course that is 60% coursework and 40% examination.

Course Overview:

AOS 1: Performance (30%)

You will study performance skills (vocal or instrumental) in class, on an instrument of your choice, and also have the option to do this with specialist instrumental or vocal tutors. You will perform a mixture of ensemble (group) and solo pieces.

AOS2: Composition (30%)

You will learn how to create your own music and compose two pieces of music over the course. One composition will be a free composition and one will be to a set brief by OCR. You will use the music computers and keyboards to help you to compose your responses.

AOS 3 & 4: Listening and Appraising (40%)

You will learn about 4 different areas of study (Pop, World Music, Film Music, Concertos), and you will learn how to talk about what you can hear in the music. The assessment for this unit is a listening exam at the end of Y11.

Typical Careers in the Music Industry:

EDUCATION: Classroom Music Teacher, Instrumental Music Teacher, University Lecturer
PERFORMANCE: Professional musician, Cruise ship musician, DJ, Session Musician, Songwriter, Composer, Music Director for Radio/TV
TECH: Audio Engineer, Music Producer, Recording Engineer, Recording Studio Manager
ACADEMIC: Director of A&R, Music Publisher, Social Media Manager, Promotion & Marketing, Music Journalist, Events Management, Music Therapist

About the Exam and/or None Examined Assessment:

This course is 60% None Examined Assessment (Coursework). Throughout the course you will be asked to prepare:

- 2-3 performances, with at least one solo and one ensemble (group) performance.
- Two compositions, one in a free choice, and one set to brief given by OCR.

End of Course Assessment: (40%)

The end of course examination plays music from four different areas of study: Pop, World Music, Film Music, and Orchestral Concertos, which you answer after listening to timed recordings.

The Listening paper will encompass a wide range of Areas of Study and will include interesting content

The Music Course offers excellent progression onto AS and A2 Music courses