

GCSE Music - Eduqas Exam Board

There are three components to the course – with weightings the same as in Key Stage 3:

Performing (30%) – students produce a portfolio of performances, to last between 4 – 6 minutes. This includes at least one ensemble (minimum duration of 1 minute) and any other solo items. These can be recorded at any time during the course. It is anticipated that at least one piece will be done before the end of Year 10. For those who follow exam syllabuses, the required standard is approx. Grade 4 – but played well.

Composing (30%) – two pieces recorded digitally, lasting between 3 – 6 minutes between them, and written as some sort of score, or a brief piece of written work explaining the working processes behind the composition. These compositions will be based on work done through Year 10 and the Autumn Term of Year 11.

One will be a ‘free’ composition (of the student’s choice, the other based on a brief published by the exam board at the start of September of Year 11.

Listening (40%) – at the end of Y11 there will be one 1½hr exam. There will be 8 questions based on Areas of Study (set out below). The material examined will be based on work done through the course, including features of musical knowledge such as theory of rhythm, pitch, time signatures, keys, common terminology, and instrumentation, historical and cultural context. There are also two set works for in-depth study, and 2 of the 8 questions will be on these set works.

Areas of study (and sub-strands):

AoS 1 Musical Forms and Devices Baroque Classical Romantic
(set work: Mozart *Minuet* from *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*)

AoS 2 Music for Ensemble Chamber Music Musical Theatre Jazz and Blues

AoS 3 Film Music

AoS 4 Popular Music Rock and Pop Fusions Bhangra
(set work: Rainbow *Since You’ve Been Gone*)