

**Qualification: GCSE Music**

**Exam Board: Eduqas**

**Head of Department: Ms K Sterran**

### **Why study GCSE Music?**

GCSE Music is a dynamic and rewarding subject for students who enjoy performing, composing, and exploring a wide range of musical styles. It offers the chance to develop practical skills, creativity, and musical understanding through hands-on experiences and critical listening. Whether you're a singer, instrumentalist, producer, or simply passionate about music, this course helps you grow as a musician and thinker.

### **What will I learn?**

Students will study three main areas:

- **Performing:** Develop confidence and skill in solo and ensemble performance.
- **Composing:** Learn how to create original music using a variety of techniques and styles.
- **Appraising:** Explore and analyse music from different genres, cultures, and historical periods.

You'll gain a deeper understanding of musical elements, notation, and the context behind the music you hear and create.

### **How will the course be structured?**

The course is divided into three components:

1. **Performing (30%)** – Two performances: one solo and one ensemble.
2. **Composing (30%)** – Two compositions: one to a set brief and one free choice.
3. **Appraising (40%)** – A written exam based on musical listening and analysis, covering four areas of study:
  - a. Musical Forms and Devices
  - b. Music for Ensemble
  - c. Film Music
  - d. Popular Music

Lessons will include practical workshops, listening activities, composition tasks, and performance opportunities.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment is split between coursework and a final exam:

- **Performing and Composing** are assessed through coursework (Non-Exam Assessment – NEA), making up 60% of the final grade.
- **Appraising** is assessed through a written exam worth 40%, which includes listening questions and short written responses.

### **What career opportunities are there?**

GCSE Music can lead to further study in music at A-level or college, and opens doors to careers in:

- Performance and Composition
- Music Production and Sound Engineering
- Teaching and Education
- Music Therapy
- Media, Film, and Game Soundtracks
- Arts Management and Event Production

It also supports transferable skills such as creativity, teamwork, discipline, and communication.

### **How can I get further information?**

Please speak to **Mr Turner** for more details about the course and how it fits into your options.