

A Level Music

Examination Board: WJEC Eduqas – A Level

Why Music?

Queen Elizabeth's High School has a well-deserved reputation for producing musicians of a high standard, many of whom go on to follow music as their chosen career, or as keen amateurs.

The A Level music course builds on the GCSE skills of performing, composing and appraising in ways that emphasise their interdependence. Students are able to perform on any instrument (or voice) and are expected to present a wide repertoire. This should be of about Grade 6 standard by the end of Year 12, and Grade 7 standard for the final performance in Year 13.

Students study a wide range of music, including rock, pop, musical theatre, jazz, twentieth and twenty-first century music and western classical music, as well as popular and classical traditions of non-western origin.

Entry Requirements

QEHS standard entry requirements will apply. Students will need to have achieved:

- a 6 grade or above in music at GCSE Level
- grade 5 standard on at least one instrument
- grade 5 music theory

However, if the student does not meet one of these requirements they will be considered on an individual basis. These students will be asked to attend a short interview to ascertain their suitability for the course before the beginning of the academic year. Please contact Mrs. R. Lawrence for further information.

Course Content:

There are three units representing the three major activities of this qualification: performing, composing and listening/analysing;

- Performing: 10-12 minute performance – 35%
- Composing: two compositions – 25%
- Developing Musical Understanding: written examination – 40%

Students can perform in a range of styles and can select music that best suits their ability. Composing is assessed by a portfolio submission.

How does learning differ from Pre-16 study?

Although A Level music follows the same key areas of listening, history, composition and performance, students are expected to work more independently, learn research skills and produce extended pieces of writing.

Prospects

Students studying A Level music will often progress to degree-level courses in music, performing arts or music technology at universities and conservatoires.

Students studying A Level music at QEHS will receive funding towards the cost of music lessons on their main instrument studied in school. Please contact the music office for further information.

Contacts

Please contact Mrs. R. Lawrence, Head of Music, if you wish to discuss this qualification further.