

MUSIC

at SCGSG

Head of Department:

Mr C. Collet

Edexcel - Specification 1MU0

GCSE Music:

GCSE Music is an ideal choice for those who sing or play a musical instrument in any style and who like to listen to a wide variety of music.

The course involves the integrated activities of Performing, Appraising (Listening) and Composing.

It will be expected that you are playing at, or working towards, a minimum of a grade 4 or above to consider taking this qualification.

Component 1: Performing Music (30%)

Students will be recorded performing a number of pieces of at least four minutes' combined duration.

- **Solo performance:** this must be of at least one minute in duration, and may comprise one or more pieces
- **Ensemble performance:** this must be of at least one minute in duration, and may comprise one or more pieces

The expected standard of difficulty of music to be performed is Grade 4, although extra credit may be available for pieces of Grade 5 or higher.

Component 2: Composing (30%)

Students compose two compositions, of at least three minutes' combined duration:

- One composition to a brief set by the exam board, of at least one minute in duration.
- One free composition set by the student, of at least one minute in duration.

Component 3: Appraising (40%)

Students will study a number of pieces of music in a variety of styles including 'classical' music (Beethoven, Bach), vocal music (Queen, Purcell), music for stage (songs from Wicked), music for screen (Star Wars) and musical fusions from non-western musical cultures. In the final exam students are asked questions based on their set pieces and also unfamiliar pieces.

About the Music Department:

- Over 200 students learn instruments in school,
- Numerous ensemble opportunities (two orchestras, two choirs, instrument-specific ensembles)
- Three concerts annually,
- Opportunities to perform in the annual school production,
- 25 computers running *Sibelius* music software.



GCSE and Beyond...

After studying at GCSE, many of our students choose to continue at our Sixth Form and take the A-Level Music course.

Former students have gone on to study the subject at The Royal College of Music, The Royal Northern College of Music, Leeds College of Music, The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and the Universities of Birmingham, York, Sheffield and Liverpool. Graded examinations (practical and theory) from Grade 6 upwards can be counted towards UCAS points for university entrance.