

Progression between Year 12 and Year 13

In both year 12 and 13 pupils develop their skill in musical knowledge and understanding which will prepare them for their final exams. However, it is a demanding course of study. The standard for performance is a minimum of Grade 6 standard and an extended performance is a requirement at this level (12 minutes). The technical study is challenging and requires commitment and self discipline to build up your harmonic repertoire and theory knowledge.

Coombe Sixth Form Music A Level



"Music is one of my favourite subjects here at Coombe and will help me to further my ambition of becoming an actress in the future. I currently have a place at Loughborough University to study Drama, after my gap year. I find studying Music really fun as I enjoy composing and performing. I also love being introduced to new composers and music styles in my music analysis lessons."

Exam board / website: Eduqas A Level Music

<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/music/as-a-level/index.html>



Music

What does studying Music involve?

A Level Music involves the activities of performing, composing, developing musical understanding and techniques, listening and analysis.

What skills will I develop and where could studying this subject lead?

During the course you will develop a variety of musical skills including practical, interpretative, creative, aural, knowledge and understanding and music technology skills. In addition you will develop your Key Skills including communication, ICT, improving your own learning and performance, and working with others. The quality of your written work is assessed in the analysis paper including style, form, vocabulary, organisation, spelling, handwriting, punctuation, grammar and presentation.

In school there are many extra-curricular activities to become involved in to develop your skills, either by participating, directing and rehearsing an ensemble, organising an activity or helping the Music staff. These may include Orchestra, Choir, Junior Choir, Senior Singers, Ukulele Ensemble, and the String Ensemble. Workshops, concerts and

conferences are organised when the opportunities arise. Individual instrumental or vocal tuition is available in school. Please ask the Music staff for more details. There are also the posts of School Music Captain and Deputy in Year 13 which involve giving your time, talents and commitment to the Music Department.

Music can be studied at degree level at university or specialist music conservatoires as a discrete subject or as part of a combined degree at university. A wide variety of career pathways will be open to you including performing, teaching, composing and arranging, music industry management, broadcasting, music technology, music therapy, instrument technology, arts administration and much more.

Which other subjects does it combine well with?

Music is favourably recognised by universities, and combines well with all A Level subjects. It can be studied at degree level at university or specialist music conservatoires as a discrete subject or as part of a combined degree at university.

Modules that you will cover and assessment details:

A Level Music

Unit 1

Performing – either 25% or 35% coursework externally assessed.

Unit 2

Composing - 25% or 35% coursework externally assessed,

Unit 3

Appraising - 40% exam at the end of the course

Entry requirements / prior knowledge:

To begin the A Level course you need a 5/6 grade at Music GCSE, and a minimum standard of grade 5/6 (Associated Board or Equivalent) level skills on an instrument or voice at the start of the course. It is also important to be able to read music and have a good understanding of music theory.

If you would like to start the course but do not have GCSE Music and/or Grade 5 on an instrument or voice, then an interview and audition will be organised with the Music staff in the first week of term prior to beginning the Induction Period. You will also be asked to produce a 1.5 minute

composition to show us your skills in that area of the course.

Similarities between GCSE and A Level

A Level Music extends and develops the skills covered at GCSE level. The course is also broken down into the three main areas on the GCSE specification: performing, composing listening and appraising.