



Course Information – September 2011

Course Title

MUSIC

Level

GCSE

Awarding Body

AQA

What is the content of the course?

There are three areas of study: Sequencing/Performing, Composing and Listening. For the sequencing unit, pupils work on the computers to re-create a well known piece of music e.g. Mission Impossible, to a professional level. In Performing unit students prepare an ensemble piece. This may be on any instrument or voice, or as part of a drumming group. The Composing unit gives students the opportunity to create music to a given brief, for example: Dance Music. The Listening unit requires students to learn about musical instruments and about a wide range of styles from classical to Rock!

How is the course assessed?

	%	Details:
End of course exams	20	The Listening examination takes place in the summer of the final year.
Modular exams		
Controlled Assessment	20	One composition is completed in a controlled period of time over a specified number of lessons.
Portfolio	60	All sequence/performance work contributes to the portfolio as well as one composition. The recordings take place at regular intervals during the course.

How is this course delivered?

The majority of lessons are practical with students working on their sequencing, and performances. Composition is also practical and is usually undertaken using the Cakewalk programme on the computers. There are small amounts of listening and key word learning in every lesson to prepare for the Listening examination.

What are the entry requirements?

The main requirement is enthusiasm and enjoyment of a wide variety of music. Basic ICT skills are essential.

What skills are useful for success on this course?

The ability to work independently is essential as well as being able to work effectively in a team. Willingness to have a go and perseverance are also very useful.

What opportunities will success on this course give me?

This course prepares for AS/A2 Music Technology available in our sixth form. It also prepares for employment in the Performing Arts Industry such as working at a recording studio.