

Optional: Music (Edexcel IMU0)

The Music department has chosen Edexcel GCSE Music (IMU0) which has three areas: Performing, Listening and Composing. This GCSE develops an all-round musician and, in its rigour, provides a good stepping stone to A Level Music. There are plenty of opportunities for music-making within the course as 30% of the marks come from Performance. A good understanding of musical notation is required in the course and pupils must be prepared to perform at a standard of around Grade 4 ABRSM.

Performance (30%)

The musician is ideally of ABRSM grade 4 level and has to perform a solo and an ensemble piece. The performances have to last 4 minutes as a minimum.

- 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.

Appraising/Listening (40%)

There are four areas of study, which each have two set works.

- Instrumental Music (1700 – 1820)
- Vocal Music
- Music for Stage and Screen
- Fusions

The listening exam is 1 hour and 45 minutes long and features a CD being played, to which the candidates have to respond.

Composing (30%)

Students must submit two compositions, of a combined duration of at least three minutes:

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

Students do not have to perform the music that they have composed.