

A Guide to the Curriculum at Key Stage 4 (Years 10 & 11)

GCSE Music

Year 10

At Hasland Hall we study the OCR GCSE Music syllabus. Students continue to build on the skills and knowledge they first developed at KS3. They are assessed through Non Examined Assessment on their performing and composing skills, and through a final examination for the listening and understanding skills. Students study music from a variety of styles, genres and traditions. Students sit two one hour music lessons each week in Year 10 and three one hour lessons a week in Year 11.

Key Stage 4 Assessment

Formative assessment is continual within the faculty and includes teacher comments, as well as peer and self-assessment. Summative feedback provides a GCSE grade, as well as strengths and targets for improvement for the Assessment Focuses studied.

Every student is provided with an A4 ring binder and teachers mark the work in pencil or a coloured pen. Pupils then have an opportunity to respond and improve their work. It is expected that students will rehearse their performance pieces out of lesson time either at home, or in the music department at lunchtime or after school.

There is also an expectation that key concepts and vocabulary will be learnt during set homework and this is vital to success on the course.

Term One: AoS5: Conventions of Pop

In this unit, students will be introduced to the GCSE course through a single topic which will enable them to demonstrate their group performance skills and to develop their listening skills. They will also develop their knowledge of musical notation and theory. Students will rehearse their parts for the ensemble performance.

Term Two: AoS5: Conventions of Pop and AoS2: The Concerto Through Time

Students will continue to learn about the Conventions of Pop and will be introduced to a new topic; 'The Concerto Through Time'. They will start to work on their composition skills and will continue to develop their knowledge of musical notation and theory.

Term Three: AoS2: The Concerto Through Time (continued)

Students will continue to learn about the Concerto Through Time. In addition they will work on their solo performing skills, recording at least one piece.

Term Four: AoS4: Film Music

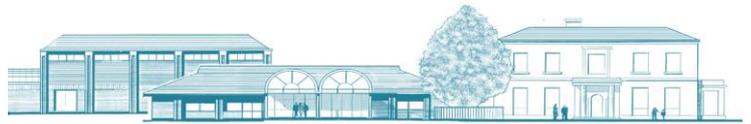
Students will learn about Film Music and will continue to develop their composition skills.

Term Five: Revision for Y10 Exam

Students will revise all the listening topics covered in preparation for an end of year exam. They will also rehearse and perform a piece for a solo performance. Students will learn the musical features of each of the styles for homework in preparation for this end of year assessment.

Term Six: Composition 1: Non Examined Assessment (15% of the GCSE course)

Students will prepare for and complete their first GCSE assessment. They will create their own brief and compose a piece of music for instruments of their own choice. Students will spend additional time on this assessment at lunchtime or after school supervised by Music teaching staff in order to attain the best grade they are capable of.



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Year 11

In Year 11 Students receive three one hour music lessons each week.

Term One: AoS3: Rhythms of the World.

Students will study 'Rhythms of the World' and will continue to develop their composition skills. They will also start to prepare for their assessed Solo Performances.

Term Two: Solo Performance Non Examined Assessment (15% of the GCSE course)

Students will record one or more solo performance pieces for assessment in this half term. There will be opportunities to spend additional time on composition and solo performance skills as well as practicing the skills which will be necessary in the exams.

Term Three: Ensemble Performance Non Examined Assessment (15% of the GCSE course)

During this term students will prepare and perform an ensemble (group) piece. They will need to work on a performance piece which includes at least two people performing different parts. Focus also continues on composition and exam skills.

Term Four: Composition 2: Non Examined Assessment (15% of the GCSE course)

Students will complete their second Composition based on a brief set by the exam board. Lesson time will also focus on the skills needed for the examine piece, where the focus is on listening.

Term Five: Revision of all Listening Topics (Listening Exam 40% of total marks)

Students will revise all of the listening topics on the syllabus in preparation for the Listening Exam.

Literacy and Numeracy Skills

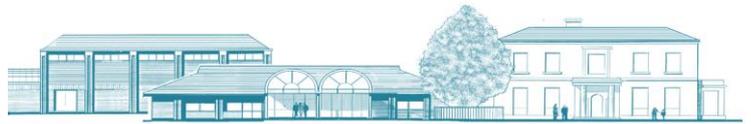
In order to support the students' literacy skills, key words and phrases used in Music lessons are displayed on the walls of the classroom. A glossary of musical terms is available below. Students are encouraged to talk about the Music they listen to in lessons and at home using the appropriate musical terms and in full sentences. Numeracy is reinforced by reference to beats in the bar and note lengths in Music. Changes in time or tempo, can be described in beats per minute.

Promoting Reading for Pleasure and Independent reading.

Reading is promoted in the Music department as part of the whole school's commitment to developing reading for pleasure. Students will be encouraged to read the lyrics of their favourite songs and to read about the music they listen to, in magazines and online blogs.

Support, Strategies and Intervention for students. (KS4)

The school offers Instrumental and Vocal lessons for students via our visiting peripatetic teachers. Students are welcome to come to the Music Department at lunchtime and after school. 'GCSE Music Support' sessions are held to offer help for students wishing to rehearse for performance assessments, work on their compositions and receive extra tuition in all areas of the syllabus. Students wishing to work independently may ask to use the Practice Rooms for individual, or small group, practise. Students are welcome to come to the Music Department at lunchtime to complete their Music homework, especially if they need to ask for help from a teacher, or to use a computer.



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Useful resources for home

- OCR GCSE Music syllabus: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-music-j536-from-2016/>
- Musical extracts which are used for homework: www.youtube.co.uk
- OCR GCSE Music Revision Guide: published by Rhinegold (includes links to Spotify playlist £9.95. A digital version of this is also available).
- Revision Guide: CGP GCSE OCR Music (Grades 9-1): This comes with a CD and can be ordered from school for £7.50 (retailed price £14.99).
- Help with understanding musical notation: <http://www.musictheory.net/>
- Information about listening topics (but not specific to OCR)
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects>

How to help your child in Year 10 and 11

- Ensure they are practising their instrument/voice regularly, at home.
- Arrange for them to have lessons on their instrument/voice.
- Ensure they attend at least one GCSE Support session per week, if they do not have lessons on their instrument/voice.
- Encourage them to attend GCSE Music Support sessions. From September 2017 the times are:
 - Thursday lunchtime
 - Monday 3pm – 4pm.
- Check their Planner to ensure they are completing homework.
- Encourage them to listen to a wide variety of music and discuss it with you. Listening to music in the car could be a good starting point for this, especially with the rock and pop topics. Topics they will be covering in school are:
 - AoS2: The Concerto Throughout Time
 - The Baroque Period
 - The Classical Period
 - The Romantic Period
 - AoS3: Rhythms of the World
 - Music of the Indian Subcontinent
 - Music of the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East
 - Music of Africa
 - Music of Central and South America
 - AoS4: Film Music
 - AoS5: Conventions of pop
 - Rock 'n' Roll of the 1950s and 1960s
 - Rock Anthems of the 1970s and 1980s
 - Pop Ballads of the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s
 - Solo Artists from the 1990s to the present day.

Post 16 Progression

Study at GCSE level can lead to A Level, or BTEC studies in Music, both of which are available at local Post 16 centres. If you are happy to travel further, then BTEC equivalent courses in performing and music technology are available at Access to Music: the creative college in Manchester, Birmingham, Lincoln and beyond.



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Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
Accompaniment	A part (or parts) which supports the melody.
Bass	1. The lowest male voice 2. The lowest-pitched line in a piece of music, on which the harmonies are based.
Beat	The beat in a piece of music is a regular pulse that we can clap along to. The number of beats in each bar is indicated by the time signature.
Cadence	A chord progression that forms an ending of a phrase, or section or piece of music.
Chord	Two or more notes played together.
Chorus	1. The repeated refrain in a verse-chorus structure. 2. A movement for whole choir in a large-scale choral work 3. A small choir or group of backing singers
Coda	A section of music added at the end to bring the piece to a conclusion.
Composer	A person who writes music.
Dynamics	How loudly or softly the music is played; the volume of the music.
Harmony	Chord progressions – a series of related chords.
Interval	The distance between two notes. For example, the interval between the notes F and A is a 3 rd .
Key	The key indicates the scale that a section or piece of music is based on. For example, music in the key of G major uses notes of the G major scale.
Melody	A tune.
Metre	The metre refers to the pulse of the music and is indicated by the time signature.
Modulation	A change of key.
Ornament	Small musical additions that decorate a melody. See acciaccatura , turn , mordent and trill .
Range	The notes that a singer or instrumentalist can sing or play.
Tempo	The speed of the music.
Texture	A term given to the density of music. It can be described as ‘thick’ or ‘thin’. It depends upon the number of parts and layers and how they work together.
Timbre	The element of music concerned with the actual sound quality, or tone colour, of the music.