

# Music GCSE What is it all about?



We are studying the Edexcel music course.

The course focuses on four main areas of study;

Instrumental Music 1700–1820 Vocal Music Music for Stage and Screen Fusions.

While learning GCSE music students will study a selection of music by great composers and learn how they did it. They will apply this knowledge into their own music making.





I look forward to Monday morning because I have double music

- Kira Year 9

# Why study Music?

It enables creative learning

It is academically rigorous

It is well respected by top universities

It is fulfilling and challenging

It allows communication in a unique language

It enables students to express themselves

It is varied and interesting

It has links to real life

It gives opportunities outside of the curriculum for performance, collaboration and leadership.

As well as setting students up for a career in the music industry it also has lots of transferable skills relevant to ongoing musical and non-musical study.

## These include;

literacy, critical thinking, social skills and team working, leadership and communication, and time management and organisational skills.

Music is the highlight of my week
- Laura Year 9



# Who will teach you?

# **Mrs Hardy**

Mrs Hardy is the Head of Music and has been teaching GCSE and A-Level Music for 12 years.

She is a vocal and clarinet specialist but has a working knowledge of most instruments. She has been recognised as an outstanding teacher of music and has been used by schools and universities to train and develop the teaching of other colleagues.

Mrs Hardy is passionate about music education and will encourage and nurture musical talent alongside providing performance and showcase outlets.





# **Practical information**

**Qualification type: GCSE** 

**Exam board: Edexcel** 

**Exams:** 1 hour and 45 minutes (40% externally examined)

**Coursework:** 

**Performance** (30% internally assessed, externally moderated)

- 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

**Composition** (30% internally assessed, externally moderated)

Must compose at least two pieces.

- One piece must respond to an awarding body set brief.
- One piece must be free composition.