



DRAYTON MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

YEAR 10 & 11 COURSES

Subject	Music
Course Level	GCSE
Examining Body	Edexcel

What will I be studying?

Performing Music

- Solo and ensemble performances on an instrument of your choice, or voice
- Choice of repertoire and style to suit your abilities.
- Should be able to perform at a Grade 4 standard (minimum) by Spring of Year 11

Composing Music

- Composing in a range of styles both historical and contemporary, using instruments, voices and Music Technology

Listening and Appraising

- Analysing and understanding eight set pieces from areas of study ranging from Bach to Queen
- Recognising and describing and comparing musical styles, sounds and techniques

What skills will I develop?

- Confidence in playing an instrument or singing both solo and in a group. The Music Department will offer you appropriate instrumental lessons
- Improvising musical ideas and composing complete pieces using notation and/or Music technology
- Analysing and understanding different styles of Music, and using the concepts learned to compose, perform and record your own music
- Reading and writing music and keyboard harmony skills
- Using technical language to describe, compare and evaluate music
- Analysing music from a range of backgrounds

How will the course be structured?

60% Practical coursework and 40% Written Examination (Theory)

Year 10

- Topics from all Areas of Study: Instrumental Music 1700-1820, Vocal Music, Music for Stage and Screen, Fusions
- Short composition assignments leading to development of your free composition
- Performing as a soloist and in an ensemble

Year 11

- Looking in more detail at set works and developing listening skills
- Recording your final solo and ensemble performances
- Completing two final compositions. The first to a brief set by Edexcel, the second from your year 10 free compositions

How will I be assessed?

Internal Assessment

Performing – 30%

- One solo performance – 15%
- One ensemble performance – 15%

Composing – 30%

- One composition to a choice of four briefs – 15%
- One free composition – 15%

External Assessment

Listening and Appraising – 40%

105-minute examination in two parts

- Listening test with eight short questions. Seven, including a dictation exercise, relate to set works, one is unseen.
- Longer essay question comparing a set work with an unseen piece of music

If you have any further questions about taking this course, who should you speak to?

1. Your Music Teacher
2. Head of Music – Ms Mirsky
3. Your Music Instrument Teacher (if you are taking lessons)