



# DRAYTON MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

## ADVANCED LEVEL COURSE 2020-2022

### Music

#### Specification Edexcel

#### Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in Music GCSE or pass at Grade 5 Theory

#### What else do I need to know or be able to do before taking this course?

Basic keyboard skills are important. It will help if you are able to play chords and bass lines when working on compositional techniques and developing compositions.

You will need to be taking regular lessons on your principal instrument throughout the course, working hard to improve as a player, and performing regularly during the course on your own and in ensemble.

Music IT skills are also very useful.

#### What will I learn on this course

You will develop your skills in performing and composing in a range of styles. You will listen to a wide variety of music and develop a more informed appreciation of how and why it was written and/or performed. You will develop and grow as a musician, leading to a life-long interest or the basis for a career involving Music.

#### The A Level Course has 3 units

- 1 **Performing** (externally assessed coursework) (30%)  
You will perform for a minimum of 8 minutes in total on your chosen instrument. Performances can be solo or ensemble and the standard level of difficulty expected is Grade 7
- 2 **Composing** (externally assessed coursework) (30%)  
You will complete a free composition worth 40 marks and a compositional techniques paper in timed conditions for 20 marks
- 3 **Appraising** (exam) (40%)  
The exam consists of listening questions, a dictation question and two essays, one on an unfamiliar piece of music, and one on a set work studied in the course

#### What kind of student is this course suitable for?

Anyone who is passionate about performing, creating and listening to different styles of music and who wishes to broaden their experience and deepen their understanding of both live and recorded music. You can perform on any instrument (including singing).

**A Level Music** is a much respected qualification at university entrance level as it demands a wide range of skills and aptitudes. Music is everywhere and is the second largest visible industry in the country so as well as leading to further study in Music or performing arts it opens the door to a very wide range of careers such as journalism, music and arts administration, radio and TV, publishing, education and the recording industry – as well as performing.