

SUMMER WORK MUSIC

Head of Department

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Exam Board

EDUQAS

Specification

A660PA A Level - Option A

A660PB A Level - Option B

COURSE DETAILS

Examination

The course is examined as a whole at end of Y13.

Unit 1: Performance Students are required to give a performance (minimum of three pieces for Option A or two pieces for Option B) either as a soloist or as part of an ensemble or a combination of both. At least one piece must reflect the musical characteristics of an area of study. The duration of the performance will be between 10-12 minutes (Option A) or 6 and 8 minutes (Option B) and will be marked by a visiting examiner.

Unit 2: Composition For this unit students are required to prepare a portfolio of two or three compositions: 1. A composition which reflects the musical language, techniques and conventions associated with Western Classical Music in response to a brief set by the exam board. 2. A free composition for which students set their own brief.

Unit 3: Appraising This unit is assessed through a written exam which will assess knowledge and understanding of music through two areas of study. Area of study A is the Western Classical Tradition covering the Development of the Symphony including an in-depth study of Haydn Symphony 104, and the second area of study will be Musical Theatre. This unit also includes a section on art music in the twentieth century.

SUMMER WORK FOR INTRODUCTION TO YEAR 12

TASK	TOPIC	
1.	Performance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss with instrumental teacher at least two suitable pieces for AS performance of Grade 6 standard where possible. 2. Practise these pieces over the summer 3. Bring the sheet music (solo part and accompaniment) to the first lesson. 4. Continue to have lessons.
2.	Music Theory – Clefs and notation*	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Watch the lesson on notation and clefs: https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/10 2. Work the exercises on notation and clefs (you can use the settings wheel in the top right hand corner to make the questions easier or more difficult) https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/note
3.	Music Theory – Key Signature*	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Watch the lesson on key signatures: https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/25 2. Work the exercises on notation and clefs (you can use the settings wheel in the top right hand corner to make the questions easier or more difficult): https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/keysig
4.	Musical Theatre	<p>Watch and make notes on the basic plot of the following musicals: Write down the names of one song of each of the following types: solo, ensemble (group – maybe a duet), chorus from each show – worksheet is available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oklahoma by Rodger and Hammerstein • Les Miserables by Bouil and Schonberg • Into the Woods by Stephen Sondheim

		It is really important that you use this time to watch these all the way through – you won't have time next term.
5.	Podcast	Listen to one episode of 'This Classical Life' hosted by Jess Gillam and make some notes on the artists mentioned. https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0004dnr

*If you have taken Grade 5 theory and feel confident in most aspects of theory, please use the website www.musictheory.net to check any weak areas.

Suggested reading

WIDER READING TO PREPARE FOR COURSE

- How Music Works: David Byrne
- The Music Instinct: How Music Works and Why We Can't Do Without It
- 50 Moments that rocked the Classical music world: Henley and Jackson
- Classical Music a Beginner's Guide: Julian Johnson
- Music: A very short introduction – Nicholas Cook
- A Short History of Western Music – J. D Grout
- The Cambridge Companion to the Symphony (Cambridge Companions to Music)
- The Symphony: A Listener's Guide: Steinberg
- The BBC Proms Pocket Guide to Great Symphonies

Helpful websites

www.edugas.co.uk/ed/qualifications/music-as-a-level

www.teoria.com

www.musictheory.net

www.bbc.co.uk/sounds

www.alevelmusic.com

Podcasts

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0004dnr>