

Whitworth Community High School Music Department

Teacher in Charge/Faculty Leader: Mrs D Goff

Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE Overview

Organisation of the classes:

Music is taught in mixed ability option groups.

The students have two lessons per week. All students will also have one lesson on their instrument per week, which is heavily subsidised by school.

Key Concepts

Students follow the Edexcel GCSE Music course.

This is divided into three main areas:

- 30% Solo and Ensemble performing
- 30% two compositions composed to a brief
- 40% Listening and Appraising assessed by a final examination

What skills do I use in this subject?

- Listening, appraising and analysing
- Group work and cooperation
- Independent learning
- Instrumental and vocal skills
- Compositional techniques

What will you be learning?

- Music theory
- Compositional skills and techniques
- Listening and appraising skills through the study of eight diverse set pieces from four areas of study
- Regular performances and performance skills

How will you be learning?

- Through individual and ensemble performances
- Applying theoretical knowledge to practical music making and composition
- Use of ICT to compose music
- Listening and appraising through a variety of musical styles and genres

How will your learning be assessed?

- Theory, Vocabulary, Listening and appraising work is assessed throughout the course. Set work assessments take place after the study of each set work. The final examination is externally marked.
- One performance per half term is teacher assessed using the GCSE criteria. Final ensemble / solo performances are teacher marked and externally moderated.
- Composition tasks will be graded with feedback for improvement given. Final compositions are teacher marked and external moderated.

Home Learning

Home learning is set on a weekly basis. Students are expected to practise their instruments several times each week and log their practise in their Practise Log Books. Written and revision tasks are also set regularly either on paper, through Google Classroom or using Quizziz.

Equipment needed?

Normal school equipment. Music folders and music vocabulary books are provided.

How can your parents support your learning?

Ensure students practise regularly and perform at home. Listen to and comment on different types of music and apply their knowledge of the set works. Listen to the set works and support regular revision.

SMSC Links – Focus on Aspirations

Exploring emotions through music, exploring creativity and composition.
Encourage respect for others and for a variety of musical styles and tastes.
Encourage collaboration and group working skills.
Respect the musical heritage of different cultures and traditions.

What extra-curricular activities or enrichment opportunities are available?

Students are expected to attend, and sometimes take a lead role in extra-curricular groups, depending on their instrument. Trips and visits take place to enhance their learning.