

Next steps!

If you want to find out more about this GCSE Music course then you can visit the Edexcel website at www.edexcel.com
You should also talk to the Head of Music at your school who will be able to describe the course in detail and advise you of what you need to do next when it comes to your options.

Music Question:

Which of these musicians became completely deaf after their hearing began to deteriorate?

Music Answer:

(a) Beethoven

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Registered Office: 190 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7BH
VAT Reg No 780 0898 07.

About Edexcel

Edexcel is a Pearson company and the UK's largest awarding body. We offer academic and vocational qualifications and testing to schools, colleges, employers and other places of learning here and in over 85 countries worldwide.

Edexcel GCSE Music



Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

- composing and performing music
- learning an instrument or singing
- creating music on computers or in a recording studio
- learning about all types of music, including classical, popular and world then our GCSE Music is the ideal subject for you.

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

You have already gained many of the basic skills needed for this course in your music lessons over the last three years at secondary school.

- You have been introduced to **creating music of your own** in class and this is developed on the GCSE course as you choose two topics for composition. For example, this could be a popular song and a dance track, a classical piece or some world music. There is a wide choice and it can be tailored to your own musical interests and strengths.
- You have already **listened to a variety of music** in class and these skills are developed as you study some set pieces taken from the classical, 20th century, popular and world music Areas of Study.
- You enjoy **making music**, either as a soloist or in a group. The GCSE course encourages you to perform music of your own choosing and in any style, as a soloist and also in a group. To take this course, you must be able to offer at least one instrument/or voice.

What will I learn?

You will learn how:

- to improve your performing skills
- music is constructed from initial ideas through to the finished product
- to analyse music in a variety of styles and discover the social and historical context in which music has been composed over the last 400 years or so.



How will I be assessed?

| Performing | Composing | Listening & Appraising |
|--|---|--|
| You will need to play one solo piece and one ensemble piece. | You will need to create two compositions. | You will sit a 90 minute written paper with questions on your prescribed set works. Questions such as these are asked: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'Name the instrument playing the solo'• 'Give two musical reasons why you like or dislike this piece of music.'• 'This theme is shared between two instrumental families? What are they?' |

What can I do after I've completed the course?

If you enjoyed the GCSE Music course then you can consider an:

- AS and A2 in Music
- AS and A2 in Music Technology
- AS and A2 in Performing Arts.

Your listening skills will enhance the aural perception needed in language examinations. Your performing skills will give you confidence in playing to an audience - useful if you intend to pursue, for example, drama or law.

Music Question:

Which of these musicians became completely deaf after their hearing began to deteriorate?

- (a) Beethoven
- (b) Mozart
- (c) Bach
- (d) Hendrix

