

Supporting you every step of the way

🎵 Subject support

If you have any questions, simply get in touch with our music team. You can sign up to receive emails and be kept up-to-date about training events, news and more.

🎵 Planning

- Our **Getting Started** guides will give you an overview of the new Music specifications to help you understand what the changes mean for you and your students.
- We will provide editable **course planners** and **schemes of work** that you can adapt to suit your department.
- Our **mapping** documents will highlight the key differences and similarities between your current specifications and our new specifications.

🎵 Teaching and Learning support

There will be lots of free support to help you deliver the new qualifications, including:

- marked exemplars of student work with examiner commentaries
- support documents for the Set Works
- student guides.

We also aim for our qualifications to be supported by high-quality resources produced by a range of publishers, including Pearson, and we'll be working with publishers who are looking towards getting their resources endorsed.

GCSE & A level Music

Inspiring the next generation of musicians

Discover our new qualifications for 2016

Find out more

For queries, information and support, we're here to help.

Call us on: **0844 463 2935**

Email us: **TeachingMusic@pearson.com**

Visit us online: **www.edexcel.com/gcsemusic2016**
www.edexcel.com/alevelmusic2016

Come to one of our free launch events

Don't forget to book a place on one of our free face-to-face or online launch events to find out more about our new draft Edexcel GCSE and A level Music qualifications. They're great opportunities to speak to someone from our Music team, as well as catch up with other colleagues. Sign up on our website at **www.edexcel.com/training**



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Inspiring the next generation of musicians

Our ambition is to develop **GCSE, AS and A level Music** qualifications for 2016 that you will know and recognise, and to allow you to teach engaging content through the context of our new Areas of Study and Set Works.

Our qualifications will support students in forming personal and meaningful relationships with music through the development of musical knowledge, understanding and skills.

Working with you

We want to make sure our new GCSE, AS and A level Music specifications are shaped by you, for your students, to help them achieve their full potential. That's why we've worked with hundreds of practising teachers, music associations and higher education to design our new qualifications. We have submitted our specifications to Ofqual, and the draft specifications and sample assessment materials are now available to view online.



Our new qualifications

Appraising through Set Works

Our qualifications will support you in teaching musical elements, musical contexts and musical language through specific pieces of music, across the different Areas of Study, and allowing students to develop a depth of understanding in their appraising skills.

Develops transferable skills through wider listening

We have included wider listening that relates to the Areas of Study to help you to prepare students to appraise unfamiliar music in the exam, and to understand the wider context of pieces.

Anthology* containing all Set Works

Teachers can buy all the sheet music and audio in one place at one time, and these are the same pieces used in the exam.

Clear assessment grids

Our assessment grids will enable you to understand what students need to achieve in their performance and compositions and ensure you can apply the grids accurately and track student progress throughout the course.

Supports progression

The content builds on the understanding developed at the previous Key Stage, increasing breadth and depth whilst avoiding unnecessary repetition and also ensuring that learners new to the subject are appropriately supported.

*Pearson's paid-for resources, as well as other endorsed resources, are not a pre-requisite for the delivery of our Edexcel specifications.

Summary of the changes

GCSE, AS and A level Music will be changing from September 2016 for all Awarding Bodies. The three key elements of performing, composing and appraising have been retained at all levels.

Our proposed structure*

GCSE	AS and A level
<p>Performing (30%) Students perform two pieces, one solo and one ensemble performance with a combined duration of at least 4 minutes.</p>	<p>Performing (30%) Students have to perform (either solo and/or ensemble) for a minimum of 6 minutes at AS and 8 minutes at A level.</p>
<p>Composing (30%) Students compose two pieces, one to a set brief and one as a free composition, with a combined duration of at least 3 minutes.</p>	<p>Composing (30%) At AS students compose two pieces, one to a set brief and the second in response to a different brief or as a free composition. At A level students must compose two pieces, one in response to the free choice brief/free composition and one in response to a brief assessing technique. The two pieces must have a combined duration of at least 4½ minutes at AS and 6 minutes at A level.</p>
<p>Appraising (40%) The content of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language is taught through the context of four Areas of Study, each containing two Set Works. The new requirement for students to appraise unfamiliar music is supported through wider listening.</p>	<p>Appraising (40%) The content of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language is taught through the context of six Areas of Study, each containing two Set Works at AS and an additional Set Work at A level, allowing co-teachability between the two qualifications.</p>

*Subject to accreditation by Ofqual