



Music

Music is taught to our students via the following programme:

Key Stage	Year Groups	Course	Exam Board
KS3	7-8	Schemes of Work	N/A
Y8 Options Stage			
KS4	9-11	GCSE	OCR
Post-16 Options Stage			
KS5	12-13	A-Level	Eduqas

The Department boasts a classroom suite of 15 PCs with industry-standard software; ProTools 10 and Sibelius 7, as well as 15 61-key semi-weighted midi keyboards. There is also a second classroom housing a class set of keyboards and lead piano. Students can also access four practice rooms all with drum kits, electric guitars, bass guitars and pianos/keyboards.

Peripatetic Lessons

We have a strong and effective team of peripatetic teachers who teach students one-to-one on a variety of modern and classical instruments. Students can work towards Grade-based exams or learn for fun, with both modern and classical repertoire available.

Some of our teachers offer drop-in clubs or free taster lessons to enable students to get a feel for the instrument and assess their interest before commencing lessons.

If your child would like to learn an instrument, contact is made with the relevant teacher directly to organise lessons and direct payment. The Head of Music can provide the relevant contact details on request.

Should your child wish to finish their instrumental lessons, a notice period will need to be served with the teacher and payment continued until the final notice lesson has taken place.

Home learning

Students in Years 7 and 8 are encouraged to own their own instrument at home which they can then use to support themselves to play music and get better acquainted with music notation. Instruments could include: keyboard, ukulele, recorder, guitar and drums. Students are also required to learn and memorise the notes of the keyboard to support their in-lesson work.

All students taking GCSE and A-Level are strongly recommended to have peripatetic lessons on their chosen instrument to support their progress.

At GCSE and A level students use home learning to improve their learning in class through regular assignments. GCSE and A level booster, revision and theory sessions ensure that all students have access to teacher support at all times. Revision and 1:1 sessions have proven extremely successful in the past in boosting student performance in examinations. These are arranged in collaboration with the students to encourage regular attendance.



Extra-Curricular

There are a range of extra-curricular opportunities available including; Orchestra, Junior Choir, Senior Choir and Guitar Club. Students are also encouraged to take part in the Musical aspects of the Production each year in both the Orchestra and Chorus.

Curriculum

The following Grade (or equivalent) requirements are suggested in order to access the content of each optional phase of learning:

Year 7	Grade 1
Year 8	Grade 2
Year 9	Grade 3
Year 10	Grade 3
Year 11	Grade 4
Year 12	Grade 5
Year 13	Grade 6

Year 7-8

Students cover a range of projects to develop instrumental, composition and performance skills and technique. Regular opportunities for performance are available and students are encouraged to regularly evaluate themselves and others to support progress and improvement.

GCSE

There are 5 Areas of Study:

AoS 1 – MY MUSIC: This is a study of your instrument, its range, technical strengths and limitation: how it is used in different ensembles.

AoS 2 – THE CONCERTO THROUGH TIME: Learners should study the Concerto and its development from 1650 to 1910.

AoS 3 – RHYTHMS OF THE WORLD: This includes the study of Calypso, Tango, Salsa, Line Dancing, Bhangra, Disco and Israeli music

AoS 4 – FILM MUSIC

AoS 5 – CONVENTIONS OF POP

Assessment



Coursework	Exam
60%	40%
Two Performances:	Questions based on:
1. Solo	AoS: 2,3,4 and 5
2. Duet or Ensemble	Melodic dictation
Two Compositions:	Aural perception:
1. Free Choice	Listening extracts
2. Set to a brief from the exam board	Instrument identification

A-Level

The course focuses on 3 Areas of Study:

AoS A – The Western Classical Tradition:

Set Works:

Symphony No. 104 in D Major, 'London' by Haydn

Symphony No.4 in A Major, 'Italian' by Mendelssohn

AoS B – Rock and Pop

AoS E – Into the Twentieth Century

Set Works:

Three Nocturnes, No. 1: Nuages by Debussy

Trio for Oboe, Bassoon and Piano: Movement II by Poulenc

Skills

Candidates are required to develop and demonstrate their musicianship skills through performing, composing, appraising, and:

- to perform for a set amount of time
- to compose either freely or to a set brief
- to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts & musical language through study of the 3 Areas of Study

COMPOSITION (25% - coursework) You will develop your composing skills in a number of styles, leading up to a submission of TWO pieces (with a combined time of 4-6 minutes in total). One must reflect the musical



techniques and conventions associated with the Western Classical Tradition in response to a brief set by the exam board. One is a free composition.

PERFORMANCE (35% - coursework) You will work independently, with support from your instrumental teacher and the Music department, to prepare a recital lasting a minimum of 10 minutes. You will perform at various points throughout the course, though the final examiner assessed performances must take place between March — April of Year 13.

APPRAISING (40% - exam - taken at end of Year 13) Students will sit an examination which will comprise of the following styles of questioning:

1. Set work analysis with a score
2. Extended responses on wider context
3. Unprepared extracts of music with and without a score
4. Comparison questions

You will sit an exam in the June of Year 13 of 2 hours, 15 minutes.

For a detailed overview of the course and key materials go to: www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/music/as-a-level/

Should you like to receive any additional information on this subject please contact Mrs E O'Regan, Head of Department via email admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk