



ABBEGATE

Sixth Form College

MUSIC

Entry requirements:

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 - 9 and minimum Grade 6 Music

STUDENT PROFILE

This course will appeal to students who have a keen interest in performing, creating and listening to different styles of music, and who wish to broaden their experience and deepen their understanding of both classical and popular music.

PROGRESSION

This A-level can lead to:

- further study in music or performing arts in higher education at degree or equivalent level.
- careers include publishing, editing, media production, broadcasting and marketing.

'Music A-level is a highly regarded choice for study in Sixth Form, and develops all of the seven skills that define employability' (CBI, 2011).

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COURSE CONTENT

Performing (30%)

In this unit you have the opportunities to perform as a soloist and /or .as part of an ensemble. Performing can be singing or playing solo, in an ensemble, improvising, or realising music using music technology, or any combination. The total performance time across all pieces must be a minimum of 8 minutes. Performances will be recorded after 1 March in Year 13.

You will develop your abilities to interpret musical ideas through performing, with technical and expressive control, and an understanding of style and context. You will be free to choose music in any style, with advice and help from your teacher. There are 3 difficulty levels, the standard difficulty level for the A level recital is grade 7, and any instrument(s) and /or voices are acceptable

Composing (30%)

This unit encourages you to develop your composition skills. You will compose a total of two compositions - one composition must be from either a list of briefs related to the areas of study, or a free composition, carrying 40 marks. This composition must be at least 4 minutes in duration. The other composition must be form a list of briefs assessing compositional technique, carrying 20 marks. This must be 1 minute in duration. Techniques you can choose include: Bach Chorale, Two-Part Counterpoint, Arrangement and Remix.

You will have the opportunity to create and develop musical ideas with technical and expressive control and coherence. Your compositions can be realised by conventional instruments or music technology. The two pieces must have a combined duration of 6 minutes.

Appraising (40%)

In this unit you will learn about the musical elements, musical contexts and musical language through the set works from an anthology made up of six Areas of Study, each containing three Set Works. The six areas of study are: Vocal Music; Instrumental Music; Music for Film; Popular Music and Jazz; Fusions and New Directions. You will also develop your aural perception skills, as well as being taught to use analytical and appraising skills to make evaluative and critical judgements about music. You will have the opportunity to listen to a wide variety of music related to music from the anthology, helping build up your knowledge and understanding in analysing unfamiliar music.

There will be a written paper of 2 hours where you will have a CD with the extracts to accompany the questions.

