

# Music

## A Level

Edexcel Advanced Subsidiary (AS) | Advanced Level (AS)  
Head of Music – Anna Mitchell

You should do this course if.....

You are serious about studying and analysing music, composing and performing.

You will mostly study Classical Music, but you may perform in any style as long as it is from written notation.

You will need to be at least grade 5 standard on your instrument or voice and have the knowledge of grade 5 theory as well as preferably having a GCSE grade C or above in Music. You must be able to read music fluently.

You will have the opportunity to perform in many different high standard ensembles and to sing in excellent four part choirs.

Skills you will develop on this course

Performance skills  
Compositional skills  
Aural skills  
Analytical skills

Topics studied

### **UNIT 1 - (AS)**

#### **Performing**

In this Unit you will develop your performance skills on your instrument or voice leading to a practical examination.

### **UNIT 2 - (AS)**

#### **Composing**

In this unit you will be developing your composition skills and working towards a composition of your own.

### **UNIT 3 – (A2)**

#### **Developing Musical Understanding**

Throughout this Unit you will develop your listening and aural skills and your understanding of different musical styles and history.

### **UNIT 4 – (A2)**

#### **Extended Performance**

In this Unit you will work hard on your performance skills on your instrument or voice working towards a recital.

### **UNIT 5 – (A2)**

#### **Compositional Technical Study**

During this Unit you will do compositional techniques and a composition of your own.

### **UNIT 6 – (A2)**

#### **Further Musical Understanding**

This Unit will further develop your listening, historical and style knowledge and analytical skills, leading to a written exam.

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### How will you learn?

Class concerts (solo performing), playing in the Concert Band, ensembles and singing in the choirs, which will lead to performances at college and outside, group work, class practical and theoretical lessons, listening to and writing about music, attending theatre and concert performances and workshops.

### Where does the course lead?

Music College for outstanding performers. Alternatively, onto University to study for a Music Degree with a view to a future career in teaching, arts management, music management, the recording industry, composition, music therapy or many other rewarding careers.

### Assessment and Exams

#### Unit 1

Practical exam of 5-6 minutes of performance on your instrument or voice

#### Unit 2

Composition of three minutes to a written brief

#### Unit 3

2 hour written examination in three parts

#### Unit 4

Performance of a 12-15 minute recital on your instrument or voice

#### Unit 5

Completion of a compositional techniques task and a further composition

#### Unit 6

2 hour written examination paper in three parts

### Entry Requirements

5 C's at GCSE including grade C or above in Music and at least grade 5 standard on your instrument or voice and grade 5 theory.