



The bridging work MUST be completed by the time you start your course. Your work will be assessed in September.

Music A level is a fun and practical course however it is academic and requires the study of a range of different styles of music. The majority of the course is centred around Western Classical Music.

Theory work

It is important you start the A level music course with a good grounding in Music theory. We recommend you purchase the book "Step up to GCSE Music" by Paul Terry, published by Rhinegold Education (second hand copies are on Amazon for less than £10 with postage). Please work through this book before September

Use the focus on sound website to work on your general theory and listening skills. Email Ms Eastmond (emily.eastmond@kingsburyhigh.org.uk) if you don't have a log in or have any problems accessing the website

Performance

Prepare a performance to play to the class in the FIRST music lesson.

- It can be on any instrument (this should be your first/main instrument).
- You can play any piece but choose something that shows off your technical ability.
- Do not attempt something too difficult that does not allow you to also demonstrate your interpretation of the piece.
- Pay attention to detail particularly to the dynamics, phrasing and articulation.
- Bring with you any instruments, music, backing tracks etc. to the first music lesson and be prepared to perform

You will also need to prepare a short introduction to be spoken directly before your performance

- What the piece is you are going to play
- Who the composer is
- A couple of sentences explaining any key points about the piece to help the audience understand what they are going to listen to-i.e. style of music, anything interesting you have found out about the piece or the composer
- Why you have chosen this piece to perform

Prepare programme notes to support your performance (written up/typed up to be handed in). This will be in much more detail than the spoken introduction

- What is the piece?
- Who is the composer?
- What style/period of music is the piece?
- Background information about the composer and the piece
- Are you performing the original version or is it an arrangement
- Why have you chosen this piece of music?

Composition

Write a short piece of music

- Write it out on Manuscript paper
- Instrument(s) of your choice
- 16 bars long
- In the key of D major

Listening Diary

Below are the set works for A level Music (Area of Study 1). Spend some time listening to them, getting to know them and write a log about the following key points;

- Era of the composition
- What else was written at this time
- Background information about the composer
- Instruments used
- How the elements of music are used (Tempo, Dynamics, Texture, Structure, Pitch, Rhythm and Timbre)

Purcell: Sonata for trumpet and strings in D Major Z.850

Vivaldi: Flute concerto in D Il Gardellino op.190 no.3 RV428

Bach: Violin Concerto in A minor BWV1041

Mozart: Le Nozze di Figaro k.492: Act 1, focusing on:

Overture

No. 1 Duetto (Figaro, including following recitative)

No. 3 Cavatina (Figaro, including the previous recitative)

No. 4 Aria (Bartolo)

No.5 Duetto (Susanna and Marcellina)

No. 6 Aria (Cherubino)

No. 7 Terzetto (Susanna, Basilio, Count)

No. 9 Aria (Figaro)

Chopin: Ballade no. 2 in F major op. 38

Chopin: Nocturne in E minor op.72 no.1

Brahms: Intermezzo in A major op.118 no.3

Brahms: Ballade in G minor op.118 no. 3

Grieg: Norwegian march op. 54 no. 2

Grieg: Notturmo op.54 no.4