

MUSIC

Examination Board: AQA

Why study Music?

If you have a passion for music and have developed your skills on an instrument/voice, why not incorporate this into an A level and delve deeper into performance, analysis and composition? The course values all music styles and instruments and is designed to foster a love of all music. The specification offers variety and choice in all areas. The performance unit encourages you to perform in the style of your choosing and, once skills have been developed in composition, you will compose, playing to and developing, your strengths and interests. Over the two years you will encounter a wide variety of music and learn to complete analysis of pieces from classical to jazz.

Where does it lead?

Further study in Music includes degrees in Music, Music Technology, combined degrees, performance courses and stage school/performing arts. Careers in music include being a professional musician, as a soloist, band member, pit musician or session musician, as well as roles in musical theatre, etc. Other possible careers include events organisation, teaching, recording studio work and many more.



I recognise what a **wonderful place Hardenhuish is to be**, where we are **inspired to learn**, somewhere we are supported to succeed.”

Sixth Form Student

Course Content

The course content consists of three components.

Unit 1: Appraising Music

- The listening, analysis and understanding of music
- The study of music ranging from the Western Classical genre to Musical Theatre, Jazz and Blues with set works from some of these areas

Unit 2: Performance

- A 10 minute performance of solo and/or ensemble performing as an instrumentalist, vocalist or music production which will be recorded and sent to the examination board

Unit 3: Composition

This unit consists of two coursework compositions which are sent to the examination board:

- Composition 1 will be based on your choice from a wide selection of briefs
- Composition 2 will be a free composition in the style of your choosing

Course Assessment

The 'Appraising Music' unit is assessed via a 2.5 hour final examination (40%) which is based on listening, analysis and understanding of music linked to the pieces and styles of music studied throughout the course and will involve identifying key characteristics in music as well as knowledge of theory and analytical essay writing on the set works.

The 'Performance' unit makes up 35% of the grade and the 'Composition' unit 25%.

**For further information,
please contact Mrs Hawkins**