

## **A Level Music - OCR Exam Board 2014-16**

The 3 components of Performing, Composing and Listening have different weightings from GCSE Music in the syllabus we follow. We use the OCR Exam Board, which puts gives a larger share of the marks to Performing (40%) than other A Level Exam Boards. The Music department feels this plays to the strengths of the candidates.

A breakdown of the components is:

### **AS**

#### **G351 Performing Music (40%) (externally assessed by visiting examiner)**

- **A** Solo performance (Gd 4-5) (recital lasting 8 minutes) (20%)
- **B** Viva voce (5 minute discussion with visiting examiner) (7%)
- **C** Extended Performing (one of four options – second instrument, ensemble performing on first instrument, perform own composition, improvisation) (13%)

#### **G352 Composing Music (30%) (internally assessed – externally moderated)**

- **A** Portfolio of seven harmony exercises (15%)
- **B** One free instrumental composition (15%)

#### **G353 Introduction to Historical Study in Music (30%) (externally marked written exam)**

- 2 hour listening/written exam – based on two Areas of Study (Instrumental Music 1700 – 1830 and Jazz 1900 – 1960)

### **A2**

#### **G354 Performing Music 2 (40%) (externally assessed by visiting examiner)**

- **A** Solo performance (Gd 6+) (recital lasting 15 minutes) (33%)
- **B** Viva voce (5 minute discussion with visiting examiner) (7%)

#### **G355 Composing 2 (30%) (internally assessed – externally moderated)**

- **A** Portfolio of stylistic techniques exercises (option of 8, *Bach Chorales* or *Pop Songs* usually chosen) (15%)
- **B** Free composition (4 minutes) (option of vocal, programme or film/TV music) (15%)

#### **G356 Historical and Analytical Studies in Music (30%) (externally marked written exam)**

- **A** 45 minute listening paper on own CD (accompanied vocal music – 1900-45) (14%)
- **B** 1¼ hour written exam – based on Area of Study/Set Works (Programme Music or Popular Music) (16%)