

Music in the Sixth Form at Latymer



Who is well-suited to studying Music in the Sixth Form?

- Most students who study Music in Year 12 have attained an 8 or 9 for GCSE Music.
- Students sometimes apply to take Music in the Sixth Form having not taken GCSE Music, in which case, suitability for the course is decided on an individual basis; we would usually expect:
 - a performing standard at the start of the course of at least Grade 6 on a first instrument;
 - music theory knowledge to at least Grade 5;
 - evidence of prior and current involvement in extra-curricular music, and a commitment to continue.

Class sizes and staffing

- We typically have 8-16 Music students in Year 12 (typically 7-12 in Year 13).
- There are the equivalent of six double and two single lessons per fortnight.
- Teaching is divided between three music teachers.

Why study Music in the Sixth Form?

- You have a genuine passion or talent for music and an interest in the subject, regardless of degree or career choices.
- You wish to study Music at university or conservatoire, or wish to keep open the option of doing so.
- Music is likely to colour and provide variety to your timetable in a different way from other subjects.
- If you need much persuading, it probably isn't for you!

Edexcel A Level Music

- Component 1: Performing (30%)
- Component 2: Composing (30%)
- Component 3: Appraising (40%)

Component 1: Performing

- Coursework performances:
 - can be solo and/or ensemble and in any musical style
 - can involve any instrument or voice
 - **6+** minutes of music for the Year 12/UCAS Exam; **8+** minutes for A level - recorded in March or April of the examination year
 - externally moderated
- Marks are awarded for:
 - difficulty level
 - Year 12/UCAS Grade 6 = 'Standard', Grade 7 = 'More Difficult'
 - A level: Grade 7 = 'Standard', Grade 8 = 'More Difficult'
 - technical control: technique, accuracy and fluency
 - expressive control: style and context
- Solo performances usually take place in lessons or informal Lunchtime Concerts in the music department; A level Recitals take place in the Great Hall.
- We provide an accompanist as required.

Component 2: Composing

- Composition is internally monitored and externally assessed.
- Composition is 'taught' for part of Year 12 and 13 to develop confidence and technical assurance before the actual coursework tasks are started.
- In Year 12, one composition is submitted for the Year 12/UCAS exam, which may be to a brief set by Edexcel or a free composition.
- Compositions are assessed for coherence, expressive control and technical control.

A level Music Component 2 includes:

- One composition (40 marks)
- One technical exercise (20 marks)

- Pieces by A level composers are sometimes performed in school concerts, e.g. Gala Concert 2023



Component 3: Appraising



Section A

- Short answers; questions based on set works (seven in Year 12, additional six in Year 13)
- Short answers, some multiple choice
- Pitch and rhythm dictation
- Aural listening questions based on skeleton scores of set works
- Identify key features of set works, placing them in context and justifying opinions (audio provided, no score)



Section B

- Essay 1:** based on an unfamiliar work related to one of the Areas of Study (audio provided, no score)
- Essay 2:** one essay from choice of four, each from different Area of Study; discuss music with reference to three elements e.g. melody, structure, texture (full score provided, no audio)

♪ Extra-curricular Music 2023-24 ♪

*audition

Junior Choir	Year 7-9
Junior Chamber Choir*	Year 7-9
Senior Choir	Year 10-13
Chamber Choir*	Year 10-13
Concert Strings	Grade 1-5
Sinfonia*	Grade 5-7
Symphony Orchestra*	Grade 7+
Chamber Orchestra*	Grade 8+
Concert Winds	Grade 1-5
Wind Orchestra*	Grade 5+
Guitar Ensembles	Various (year groups)
Flute Ensembles	Junior and Senior
Saxophone Ensemble	Year 11-13
Fusion Ensembles	Various
Junior Chamber Orchestra	Year 7-9, Grade 5+, summer
Jazz Band*	Sixth Form led
Barbershop, Cutshop, A Cut Above	Sixth Form a cappella
Year Group Orchestra/Band	Various (e.g. Year 10 or 11)

Music beyond the curriculum

- Extra-curricular music (staff or student-led)
- First/second instrument; choir
- Chamber music (external?)
- Pop, Jazz and All That
- Cross-curricular links e.g. arts, languages, history, science
- Year 7/12 arrangements
- Primary school project



Appraising – set works

Area of Study	Year 12 set works [Five set works were removed in 2021]	Year 13 set works
Vocal Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bach: Ein feste Burg (Cantata) - excerpts • [Mozart: The Magic Flute - excerpts] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaughan Williams: On Wenlock Edge - three songs
Instrumental Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clara Wieck-Schumann: Piano Trio, Op.17 - 1st movement • [Vivaldi: Concerto in D minor, Op.3, No.11] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique - 1st movement
Music for Film	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danny Elfman: Batman Returns – excerpts • [Rachel Portman: The Duchess – excerpts] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bernard Hermann: Psycho - excerpts
Popular Music and Jazz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courtney Pine: Back in the Day – excerpts • Kate Bush: Hounds of Love - excerpts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beatles : Revolver - excerpts
Fusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debussy: Estampes - Nos.1 & 2 • [Familia Valera Miranda: Cana Quemba – excerpts] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anoushka Shankar: Breathing Under Water - excerpts
New Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaija Saariaho: Petals for Cello and Live Electronics • [Cage: Three Dances for Two Prepared Pianos - No.1] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stravinsky: Rite of Spring - excerpts

A level Music results

- 2003-2019: 154/200 (78%) of our A level Music students attained grade A (or A*, available since 2010)
- 2019: 38% gained A* at A level (100% A*-B)
- 2020 & 2021 – CAGs
- 2022 & 2023 – 7/17 (41%) gained A* (100% A*-B)

Higher education destinations of 2017 & 2018 A-level Music students

- **Music** at Oxford University
- **Music** at University of Cambridge (two)
- **Music** at University of Durham
- **Music** at University of Sussex
- **Music and Philosophy** at Royal Holloway, University of London
- **Singing, Bassoon, Jazz** (Saxophone) at Guildhall School of Music and Drama
- **Violin, Cello** at Royal Northern College of Music
- **Singing, Violin** at Royal Academy of Music
- **Physics** at Imperial College London
- **Art Foundation** at Barnet College
- **Geography** at University of Cambridge
- **Filmmaking** at University of Sussex
- **Modern and Medieval Languages** at University of Cambridge
- **Russian and History** at University of London
- **Biology** at University of Bristol
- **Evolutionary Anthropology** at University of Liverpool

Music destinations 2019-2021

i.e. students going on to study Music at degree level

2021	University of Cambridge University of Manchester University of Manchester University of Glasgow – Music and Geography Guildhall School of Music and Drama (Piano) Newcastle University – Contemporary & Popular Music
2020	Royal College of Music (Singing) Guildhall School of Music and Drama (Horn) University of Birmingham University of Cambridge
2019	Royal Holloway, University of London Royal Northern College of Music (Flute) University of Leeds - Music and English Leeds Conservatoire (Jazz Saxophone) Royal College of Music (Singing) Royal College of Music (Singing) University of Birmingham University of Cambridge University of Surrey

Higher education destinations of 2022 A-level Music students

1. **Music** - University of Cambridge
2. **Violin** - Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama
3. **Oboe** - Royal Northern College of Music
4. **Horn** - Guildhall School of Music and Drama
5. **Music** - Newcastle University
6. **Art Foundation** - Central St Martin's
7. **Law** - University of Nottingham
8. **Medicine** - Brighton/Sussex
9. **German** - University of Oxford
10. **English Literature** - University of East Anglia

Higher education destinations of 2023 A-level Music students

1. **Music** - University of Cambridge
2. **Jazz Sax** - Guildhall School of Music and Drama
3. **Composition** - Royal Northern College of Music
4. **Composition** - Guildhall School of Music and Drama
5. **Physics** - University of Oxford
6. **Modern and Medieval Languages** - University of Cambridge
7. **Art Foundation** - Ravensbourne University (now applying for Music)

Career pathways from Music A level

Creative arts
Electronic and urban music
Instrumental/vocal teaching
Jazz music
Music composition
Music informatics
Music journalism
Music performance
Music promotion
Music teaching (primary / secondary)
Music lecturer
Musical instrument technology
Songwriting
Music copyist
Music publishing

Sound and music technology and recording
Traditional and folk music
Arts and media informatics
Arts management
Choreography
Community arts
Creative therapies
Dance Festivals management
Music production and management
Musical theatre
Performance and creative arts
Popular music
Stage management
Cultural studies
Media production
Media studies