

# A Level Music

## Why study Music?

Music is all around us in so many different forms, and A Level Music offers the chance to develop a greater understanding of how it has influenced society throughout the ages. Music is mathematical – it is rhythmically based on the subdivisions of time into fractions which must be done instantaneously. Music is a world of language – most of the terms are in Italian, German or French and the semantics of music is a complete and universal language. Music is history – it reflects the environment and times of its creation, taking on the emotion of a nation, region or a people. Music is art – it is the only art form we can hear as people hundreds of years ago had. Unlike paint, whose image is always there once created, music is perpetually “repainted” each time it is performed. A Level Music is the chance to develop understanding of how music has transformed over time and to foster a deeper appreciation of different styles and genres.

## What is the course structure?

In A Level Music, students will have the opportunity to develop performance skills (solo and ensemble), compose music and learn about harmony. They will also develop their aural and analytical skills by studying set pieces from the Eduqas A Level Music Study Guide.

More information can be found by visiting the Eduqas website and downloading the course specification at:

A Level:

[A level specification template \(eduqas.co.uk\)](https://www.eduqas.co.uk/a-level-specification-template)

During the A Level course, students will complete the following:

### A Level

#### Component 1: Performing

Option A: Total duration of performances: 10-12 minutes - 35% of qualification

Option B: Total duration of performances: 6-8 minutes - 25% of qualification

Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner

Option A: Performing (35%) - A performance consisting of a minimum of three pieces. At least one of these pieces must be as a soloist. The other pieces may be either as a soloist or as part of an ensemble or a combination of both. One piece must reflect the musical characteristics of one area of study. At least one other piece must reflect the musical characteristics of one other, different area of study.

Option B: Performing (25%) - A performance consisting of a minimum of two pieces either as a soloist or as part of an ensemble or a combination of both. One piece must reflect the musical characteristics of one area of study



- Asyla, Movement 3, Ecstasio: Thomas Adès
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