

# Parent Guidance on how to support your child with their Music Exam



**COURSEWORK DEADLINE:** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April (two compositions, two performances)

**EXAM:** Friday 5 June

**EASTER COURSEWORK/REVISION:** Thursday 8 April 9am-midday

## **How is the GCSE in Music assessed?**

The GCSE in Music is made up of 3 units:

Performance

Solo 15%

Ensemble 15%

Composition (X2) 30%

Listening and Appraising Exam 40%

The listening and appraising exam follows four areas of study:

AO1 – Western Classical Music 1600-1899

AO2 – Music in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

AO3 – Popular Music in Context

AO4 – World Music

At Redruth School we run the GCSE course in Music offered by the Edexcel Exam Board

[www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)

## **When is the Exam?**

The listening and appraising exam takes place on the morning of Friday 5 June and lasts for 1 hour 30 minutes. There will be eight mandatory questions with accompanying music relating to the 12 set works. Students will then opt to answer a 12 mark question in section B on one of two identified set-works.

## **Extra support sessions**

Students are invited to attend the KS4 GCSE Music revision session after school on Fridays from 3-4pm.

Students can also work in the Music Department at lunchtimes and most evenings after school until 4pm.

## **Music Staff**

Mr T Hosking – Director of Music

[thosking@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:thosking@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk)

Mr S Hammond – Music Technology Support

[shammond@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:shammond@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk)

## **Useful Websites**

For revision purposes, please use the following websites for some independent learning activities:

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/music/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/music/)

Podcasts of some of the lessons used as part of the GCSE course can also be found at the following website:

[www.musicalcontexts.com](http://www.musicalcontexts.com)

## **Top Tips for a successful exam unit**

- Students will be set regular homework, please encourage your child to complete this work by the set deadline. The homework is often research work in preparation for the next practical session in the classroom or will be an extension of work completed at school.
- Encourage your child to listen to the studied set-works as much as possible, to enable them to get used to the different features they may be asked about in the exam.
- Provide a space at home where work can be laid out and worked on.
- Encourage your Child to create a diary / checklist of the tasks that need to be completed.
- Encourage them to communicate with their Teacher their ideas and any concerns they have.
- Don't allow your son/daughter to leave their revision until the last minute.