

# Why Choose GCSE Music?

**Music** will give you the opportunity to use music technology to create your own compositions using Cubase and Sibelius software and the vast range of instruments available, producing a professional quality score and CD recording of your work. The recording studio is also available to use when recording audio tracks of live music.

Most of the course is based on performing skills giving you the opportunity to develop individual skills as a soloist and as part of a group. Throughout the year there will be opportunities for you to take part in a variety of concerts to develop your skills and musicianship.



GCSE Music will enable you to develop key skills in thinking, communication, teamworking, ICT, numeracy and curriculum cymreig. There are four main areas of study in which to develop appraisal skills, in preparation for a listening exam at the end of the course. You will complete a series of exercises listening to a wide range of musical styles and using the format of tick box answers, comparative observations and skeleton score reading. One of your performance pieces must be linked into one of the areas of study and both composition pieces must be linked into two different areas.



**At Alun School,**  
our experienced teaching team provide expert guidance and tuition.

# GCSE Music

## Assessment Information

Examining Board: WJEC Accreditation: GCSE Grades A\* - G

GCSE Music is about creating, performing and analysing music in a wide variety of musical styles. The three main areas of music skills are:

**Unit 1 - Performing:** solo vocal/instrumental performance and preparation of 4-6 minute ensemble piece for three or more players (*non-examination assessment that makes up 35% of the qualification*)

**Unit 2 - Composing:** create and develop musical ideas into compositions, submitting two contrasting pieces (one brief set by WJEC and the other a free composition) totalling 3-6 minutes. (*coursework that makes up 35% of the qualification*)

**Unit 3 - Appraising:** identify and compare the distinctive characteristics of music from a variety of styles and traditions, related to the areas of study.

(*1 hour and 15 minutes written examination that makes up 30% of the qualification*)

**Areas of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices 2: Music for Ensembles 3: Film Music 4: Popular Music**

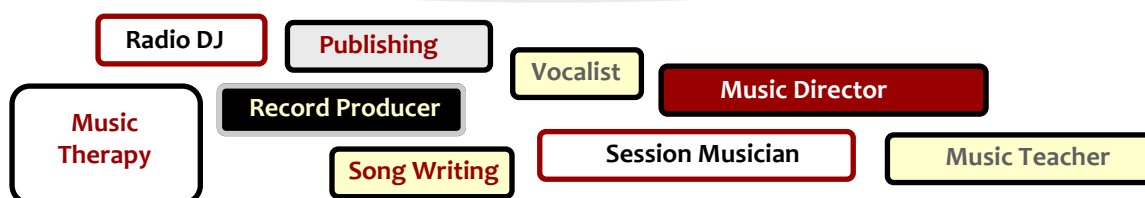
## Who is suitable for this course?

Commitment, perseverance and involvement are essential for success in GCSE Music. You should be willing to practise your vocal and instrumental skills with peripatetic and private tuition. The coursework contents means that a great deal depends on you as an individual to organise musical material and produce effort in your own specialism to achieve your potential. A positive approach and desire to succeed are important qualities for the study of music. Some degree of vocal and/or instrumental skill would be an advantage.

## Why should I take this course?

GCSE Music is a good preparation for further musical study. It will demonstrate valuable skills such as commitment and teamwork and celebrate your musical ability.

GCSE Music will give you an excellent grounding for multiple career opportunities:



## Future Options

After studying GCSE Music you could:

Study Advanced Level Music in the Sixth Form;

Study for a degree in a music-related course or other subject at university;

Get a job in the music industry.

## For Further Information

Please contact the Music department.

