

The Edexcel Syllabus is followed. Aspiring A Level musicians require a good ear, sound practical skills and an inquisitive musical mind reflected in wide performance and listening experience outside lessons.

### Component 1: Performing (30%)

- A recital performance of one or more pieces
- Performance can be playing or singing solo, in an ensemble, improvising or realising music using music technology
- Total performance time of eight minutes
- Approximate standard requirement is Grade 7 although lower grades of performance are possible

### Component 2: Composing (30%)

- Two compositions, one to a brief set by Edexcel and one either free or also to a brief
- One composition must be from a list of briefs assessing compositional techniques. These include Bach chorale harmonisation, two-part counterpoint, arrangement and remix
- Total time across both compositions of at least six minutes

### Component 3: Appraising (40%)

A written paper in the summer term which is comprised of:

- i) Listening questions based on aural extracts from set works which have been studied in class.
- ii) Analytical and comparative questions based on set works which have been studied in class as well as unseen pieces. Set works are taken from the following areas of study: Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Music for Film, Popular Music and Jazz, Fusions and New Directions.

Stockport Grammar School provides exceptional musical opportunities for every student. We offer a diverse and inclusive programme of activities, through our curriculum and extensive co-curricular programme. All pupils are given the opportunity to learn instruments with an outstanding team of music staff.

In addition to being inclusive, we aspire to the highest level of elite music-making in our choirs, bands and orchestras. We have a significant number of pupils that have attained grade 8 and beyond. Many of our pupils also participate in regional and national music ensembles and at the Junior Royal Northern College of Music. A large number of former pupils have gone on to study Music at Oxbridge, UK conservatoires and other leading universities and pursue successful careers in music.

The activities on offer are intended to provide access for all pupils, including total beginners, in all areas of music and also pathways into music careers for those with outstanding ability.



*Performance at the Royal Northern College of Music*