

4 November 2022

Dear Parent or Carer,

RE: GCSE Music Coursework Requirements

I am writing to inform you of the coursework requirements for this year for GCSE music.

GCSE Music – Component 2: Performance

Students are assessed as an instrumentalist and/or vocalist and will produce:

- Performance 1: Solo performance (36 marks)
- Performance 2: Ensemble performance (36 marks). This is for a minimum of two people where both parts are independent of each other.

A minimum of **four** minutes of performance in total is required, of which a minimum of **one** minute must be the ensemble performance. In all cases, the recording of the performances must be accompanied by one or more of the following documents, as appropriate to the type of performance:

- notated score
- lead sheet
- guide recording
- annotation.

GCSE Music – Component 3: Composition

Students are assessed on:

- Composition 1: Composition to a brief (36 marks)
- Composition 2: Free composition (36 marks)

A minimum of **three** minutes of music in total is required. Students must write a Programme note of approximately 150 words for each composition. In all cases the audio recording of the composition and Programme note must be accompanied by one or more of the following documents:

- staff notated score
- lead sheet – this is typically used for song writing

- aural guide. This is a detailed written description of the composition and explanation of the music involved in the work

I currently run an extra intervention session for composition every fortnight on Mondays after school from 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm in NB6 for students and every Monday lunchtime from 12.45 pm to 1.10 pm to attend if they choose to. There is also a morning of extended composition work on Saturday 19 November from 9.30 am – 12.30 pm for students to have a good amount of time to work on their coursework. This session will run in NB6 in North Building on that day. Please confirm your child's attendance via clicking on the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/rK1JFN2MAV>.

There is also a Christmas Concert on Monday 12 December at 7 pm and the students have been invited to perform at this if they wish to.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben Couper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B' and 'C'.

Mr B Couper
Head of Music