

MUSIC

AWARD RECEIVED

National 4/National 5

The National 4 course is assessed as pass or fail. National 5 is graded A to D.

ENTRY LEVEL – What do I need to do it?

Ideally, you should be able to play 2 instruments to at least a basic level - classroom instruments are fine (e.g. xylophone, keyboard, guitar, drum kit, voice etc.). You DO NOT need to be having lessons on your instrument in order to choose this course. It is important that you have a willingness to practise regularly.

COURSE CONTENT –What will I learn?

The course allows you to develop practical skills in performing and creating music, while developing your understanding of musical styles and concepts. It can meet the needs of a wide variety of learners with a range of musical interests.



TEACHING METHODS – What will I do?

The course provides opportunities for you to perform a variety of music in solo and/or group settings using your voice or your selected instrument(s). Through music, you will extend your ability to express yourself and develop your personal creativity and self-confidence when performing and creating music. In the course, you will develop a breadth of knowledge and understanding of music concepts and musical literacy. You will develop your ability to recognise and distinguish level-specific music signs, symbols and music concepts as you perform, create and listen to music.





ASSESSMENT

To achieve the course, you must successfully complete the three mandatory units. For National 4 you also have to complete the Added Value Unit (a performance) and for National 5 you must complete the Course Assessment (a performance and question paper).

The assessment of the units in this Course will be as follows:

Music: Performing Skills

In this unit, you will be required to provide evidence of musical performing skills on your two selected instruments or instrument and voice. You will maintain the musical flow and play, with acceptable accuracy, a selection of challenging level-specific music extracts.

Music: Composing Skills

In this unit, you will be required to provide evidence of understanding the creative process and the things that influence and inspire the work of musicians and composers. You will also provide evidence of using compositional methods and music concepts creatively in your own music drawing on your understanding of how composers develop their musical ideas and work.

Understanding Music

In this unit, you will be required to provide evidence of a breadth of knowledge of music concepts and music literacy. You will show your ability to listen to music extracts and identify where specific music concepts are used and to identify the distinguishing features of specific music styles. You will also identify a range of music signs and symbols used in music notation.

HOMEWORK

You will be expected to develop and extend your skills outside the classroom in all three elements of the course. This involves regular practice on your two chosen instruments as well as composing and listening. Attendance at extra-curricular music activities is strongly recommended and will greatly enhance your musical education.

PROGRESSION IN THE SENIOR PHASE

Successful completion of the National 4 course may lead to National 5. Successful completion of the National 5 course may lead to Higher.

COSTS

N/A