

# Music N4 and N5

## Aim of courses

To ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to create, perform and respond positively to music. Pupils will be encouraged, across a range of abilities, to develop their skills through a variety of activities, opportunities and experiences.

## Why study Music?

Music courses allow pupils to develop their creativity, organisation and confidence through performing, composing and listening to Music. The level of discipline required and developed by this subject is highly transferrable and the experience of making music is extremely motivating and rewarding. This course allows you to develop the skills and knowledge required to proceed to further study and/or follow a career in music.

## Music

This course consists of three units and an added value unit. *This subject is currently under review and new guidelines on coursework are to be confirmed:*

### → Performing Skills (60 marks)

- Play two instruments or one instrument and voice.
- Perform at least 2 pieces on each instrument.
- Perform a programme of pieces, 8 minutes in total, between the two instruments (internally assessed for N4, externally assessed for N5).
- Perform at least 2 minutes on one instrument.
- N4 is equivalent to ABRSM/Trinity Grade 2.
- N5 is equivalent to ABRSM/Trinity Grade 3.

### → Composing Skills (30 marks TBC \*New for 2017/18\*)

- Creating music using appropriate concepts.
- Compose, improvise and/or arrange your own music.
- Provide evidence of progress in creating music in different styles.
- Assignment (30 marks) to develop and assess composing skills. *Please note that this is new for 2017/18 and guidelines for this assignment are TBC.*

### → Understanding Music (40 marks)

- Listen to music from a variety of musical styles.
- Identify and recognise specific music concepts, as well as music signs and symbols used in music notation.
- Question paper based on recorded excerpts of music and musical literacy.

## Assessment

- To achieve a course award, candidates must pass all three units.
- **National 4** is assessed internally on a pass or fail basis.
- **National 5** is assessed externally and graded A-D.

**Further advice and information is available from Mr Ratcliff**