

Music at National 4

Aim of course

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 skills developed by this subject are highly transferable 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 leading to a variety of careers including music.

Entry to the Course

You would normally be expected to either be working within **BGE Level 3** or have appropriate previous experience of performing at grade 1 or above.

This course consists of three units:

→ **Performing Skills**

- Play two instruments or one instrument and voice.
- Practising at least 2 pieces on each instrument.
- N4 is equivalent to ABRSM/Trinity Grade 2.

→ **Composing Skills**

- Creating music using appropriate concepts.
- Compose, improvise and/or arrange your own music.
- Provide evidence of progress in creating music in different styles.
- Final composition to develop and assess composing skills.

→ **Understanding Music**

- 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.
- Studying the social and cultural influences which have influenced the distinctive sounds of specific music styles.

Assessment

To achieve a course award, candidates must pass all three units and the **Added Value Unit Assessment**.

The **Added Value Unit (AVU)** takes the form of an audio recording of the candidate performing 8 minutes of at least Grade 2 music over their two instruments.

National 4 is assessed internally on a pass or fail basis.

Further advice and information is available from Mrs Edwards, Mr McIntyre and Mrs Barrie