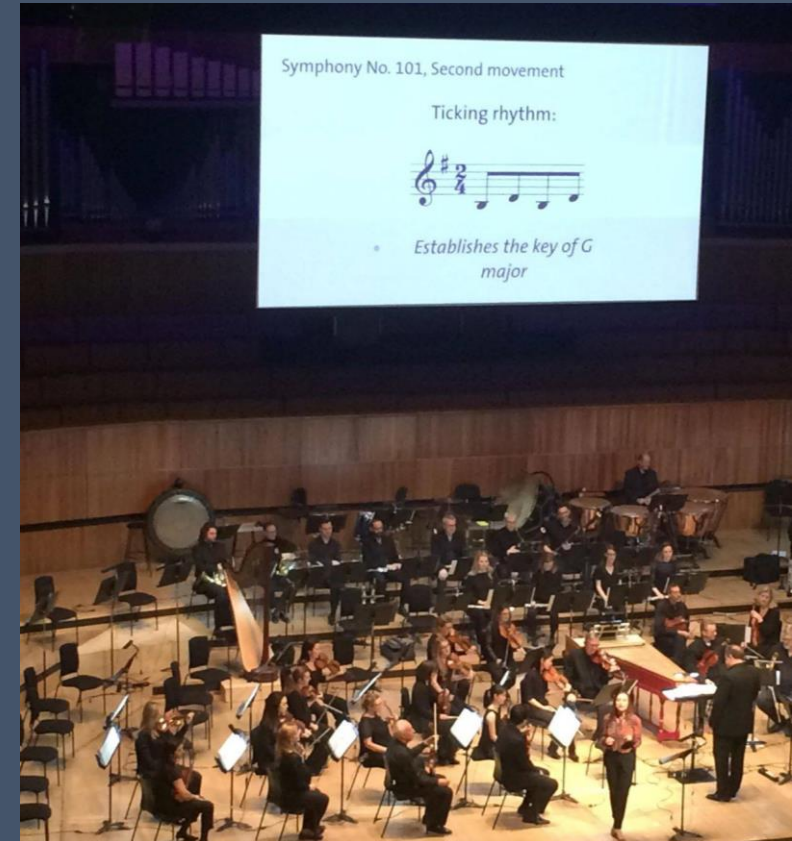


# Music Technology



# Why Should I Study Music?

- **Transferable Skills** - Music is a highly academic subject in its own right, but it actually benefits other subjects too. It enhances learning skills, communication, creativity, teamwork, discipline, cultural awareness, respect for others, and self-esteem through personal accomplishment.
- Both employers and universities see creative subjects as assets – particularly Music as it's considered one of the most useful subjects for developing cross-curricular skills.
- Finally, and perhaps most importantly: students are more likely to succeed and achieve a higher grade if they study something they are good at and enjoy!



# What Will I Study?



## AQA GCSE Music (Technology option)

- Sequencing 30%
  - Composing 30%
  - Understanding Music 40%
- 
- There is one exam – the rest is coursework.

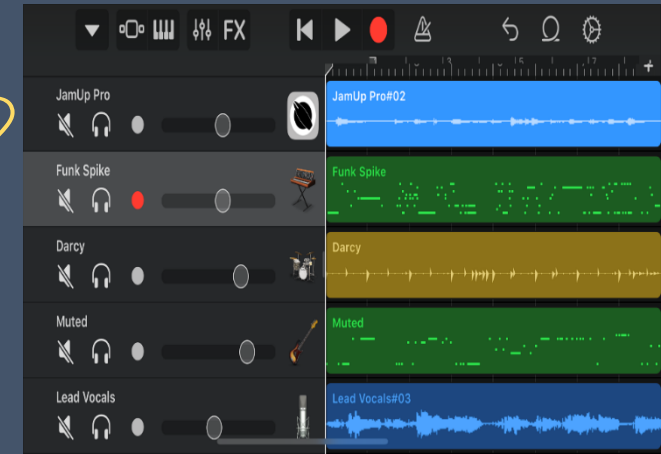
# What Will Music Lessons Be Like?

- Double lesson – sequencing and composing using DAW software
- Single lesson – understanding music and listening skills



# How Will I Be Assessed?

## AQA GCSE



- Composing and sequencing – completed by end of March in Year 11
- Listening paper – 1 hour and 30 minutes sat in year 11

2

### Section A: Listening

#### Question 1: Area of study 1 Western classical tradition 1650 - 1910 [19 marks]

This excerpt will be played **four** times.

You may find it helpful to tick a box each time you hear the excerpt.

This is the melody for the first part of this excerpt.

Musical score for the first part of the excerpt. The score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff starts with a '2' above the first measure, indicating a second ending. The lyrics are: In pa - ra - di - sum. The second staff starts with a '7' above the first measure, indicating a seventh ending. The lyrics are: De - du - cant an - ge - li.

0 1 . 1 Identify the keyboard instrument used in this excerpt. [1 mark]

0 1 . 2 Here are four statements about the upper, right hand part played on the keyboard. Circle the correct answer to say if each of these statements is **True** or **False**. [4 marks]

- an ostinato pattern **True / False**
- notes are in step - conjunct **True / False**
- there are four notes in each group **True / False**
- arpeggio shapes **True / False**

0 1 . 3 On the score, fill in the missing notes in bar 7 using the given rhythm. [3 marks]

# Set works we study for section B – 30 minutes.

1. Western classical tradition  
1650 to 1910

Beethoven: *Symphony No. 1*,  
Movement 1: Adagio molto –  
Allegro con brio

2. Popular music

Queen – the following three  
tracks:  
• *Bohemian Rhapsody*  
• *The Seven Seas of Rhye*  
• *Love of my Life*

[Beethoven Explained Symphony No 1 Mv 1](#)

[Queen – Bohemian Rhapsody \(Official Video Remastered\)](#)

# What current students say about Music GCSE?

- **Why did you choose Music?** *Sounded fun, I enjoy Music*
- **What do you enjoy most about Music?** *Composing, the 'fiddle time' (practical), the theory – it's interesting*
- **What is homework like?** *Fun, it doesn't feel like homework!*
- **What surprised you about the course?** *How much listening and composing there is. Enjoying the theory bits.*
- **How does Music link to other subjects?** *Links to drama, maths and science.*
- **Do you feel supported by your teacher?** *100%, lots of feedback*
- **Would you recommend taking Music?** *Yes, definitely! But make sure you have been playing your instrument for over 3 months!*

# What Does Work Look Like In Music?



**from My Friends**

A song for him to sing (George, John, Paul are very good singers) to be recorded. Re-creating what was very late due to Ringo's vocals. (C-D-E) and the lyrics "Billy Shears" (Ringo's alter ego)

**Harmony**  
 in G major (open)  
 chords G, D, E, F#m in play in  
 rhythm creates sense of balance.  
 usually used to set up key bar  
 longer coherence.

**Structure**  
 Intro: Billy Shears in harmony of backing vocals (appears  
 sound of cheering crowds. (Taken live from a Beatles  
 concert.)

**Verses:**  
 Verse 1: 2 bar without solo followed by Ringo solo.  
 Chorus: Ringo solo with backing vocals harmonising  
 on the third repeat. Only 6 bars (3x2 bar phrase) - not typical for a pop song. Ends  
 with a 2 bar pause on B.

**Verse 2:** Ringo alternating questions with the backing vocal  
 answers in harmony. (Antiphony)

**Chorus 1:** In vocal harmony throughout. 6 bars in case  
 of eight. (No pause on B)

**Bridge 1:** backing vocals asking questions from Ringo  
 answering.

**Verse 3:** Same as verse two.

**Chorus 2:** Same as chorus 1.

**Bridge 2:** in vocal harmony throughout, this time  
 8 bars leading to...

**Chorus 3:** Same three ascending chords as the intro.  
 Ringo hits the highest note (falsetto)

**Final cadence:** altered after audience

vocal solo  
 whole melody (apart)  
 whole melody in a conjunct/strept  
 notes mainly in a conjunct/strept  
 has a narrow range of notes which is long  
 for Ringo's baritone voice (E-G)

Harmonies are provided by John, Paul and George. Adds  
 development and embellishes the song  
 Chorus covers 'heal' - catchy line in the chorus, often first  
 line of the chorus / answer or vice  
 answer fill at the end of first chorus followed by  
 short drum solo.  
 vocal melisma at ends of lines (ahns, aahns)  
 vocal melisma at ends of lines (ahns, aahns)  
 the bridge provides a contrast as the backing vocals ask  
 the questions in an expansive vocal range  
 question and answer phrases in verse 2, 3 lines overlap.

**Rhythm and Metre**

time signature is 4/4  
 moderate tempo (110 bpm)  
 A companion - simple crooner movement in piano.  
 melody is syncopated, pleasing emphasis on the  
 notes. Think of a swing tune, walk and me.  
 Drums play shuffle rhythm.  
 shuffle beat and by repeated melody connect create  
 a companion.  
 Swing quarter throughout (first slower larger man,  
 second)

**Texture**

Melody and accompaniment.  
 In original - Paul McCartney piano.  
 George Harrison - electric guitar.  
 John Lennon - bass.  
 Ringo Starr - drums/vocals.  
 In Beatles album sound added to previous recording.  
 In Beatles 4 rhythm guitar, lead guitar, bass,  
 extra harmonies created.

• The orchestra music of Haydn, Mozart & Beethoven

**Describe a Classical Orchestra?**  
 a large instrumental ensemble which combines instruments  
 from different families, including bowed strings instruments  
 such as the violin, viola, cello and double bass, brass instruments  
 like trumpets, trombones, horns and tubas, woodwinds like  
 flutes, oboes, clarinets, bassoons and saxophones, and  
 percussion instruments like timpani, snare drum, cymbals, and  
 triangle.

**What is a concerto?**  
 a musical composition for a solo instrument or  
 instruments accompanied by an orchestra.

**What is an overture?**  
 a composition for an instrumental soloist, often with a piano  
 accompaniment, typically in several movements with one or more in  
 an orchestra.

**What is a sonata?**  
 a slow, stately ballroom dance for two in triple time.

**What is ternary and rondo forms?**  
 ternary form -ABA  
 rondo form -ABACA

**What is a symphony, and how many movements are there?**  
 a symphony is a large-scale orchestral work intended to  
 be played in the concert hall. It is usually 4 movements.

**Listen to the following pieces by Mozart and bullet point facts - Remember to use DR**

**Mozart's Clarinet Concerto**

- It was completed in the year of Mozart's death, 1791
- There are 3 movements
- It is in A major
- Slow-fast-slow
- Mozart didn't originally write it for a Clarinet piece.



# FAQs

- I don't play an instrument, is that ok?
- To get a really good mark in performing, what standard piece should I sequence?
- I've heard that Music is hard; composing is hard.
- I don't read Music because I've learnt my instrument by ear – does that mean I will find it hard?
- Is GCSE like KS3 lessons?

# How Do I Find Out More Details?



- Speak to the subject lead:  
Yvonne Hammond
- Email  
[hammondy@wallingfordschool.com](mailto:hammondy@wallingfordschool.com)
- Ask questions at Year 9  
Parents' Evening
- Speak to Miss Norman