

GCSE MUSIC



The City of Derby Academy Music
Department

'Improving the life chances of all students'



Why choose GCSE Music?



A love of music is essential

If you love music, love creative challenges, and enjoy learning about different types of music from around the world, then GCSE Music might be for you!

GCSE Music is a vary varied and exciting option to take. You will study a wide range of activities including performing, composing and learning about different styles of music.

Do I need to play an instrument?

Yes - You need to be able to sing or play an instrument to a reasonable standard. You can be self-taught or have had instrumental/vocal lessons.

If you do not already play an instrument, but would love to learn, the music department may be able to help you access instrumental or vocal lessons which you must attend alongside your GCSE Music lessons.

How will music help me in the future?

The City of Derby Music Department believes that music 'improves the life chances of all student.'

GCSE Music will show future employers you have a wide range of interests and skills, as well as demonstrating that you have dedication and commitment to learning a musical instrument and to studying music.

GCSE Music can also help with confidence and well-being. You will also learn valuable performance skills that are needed in situations such as job interviews.

Music GCSE is hard work, but it is also one of the most enjoyable subjects to learn and succeed in!

Homework and Extra-curricular expectations

GCSE Music students will complete a range of written and research tasks throughout the course. Students will also be expected to rehearse their chosen instrument or voice weekly and attend extra-curricular clubs, rehearsals and performances.

The CoDA Music Department

The City of Derby Academy Music Department is well equipped with a wide variety of instruments for you to experience and learn during your time at the school.

The Music Department has 2 music teachers, each with their own specialised music classroom, 3 practice rooms, as well as a singing specialist who runs the CoDA Chromatics Choir. Additional music lessons are available on request.

The Music is also developing links with the wider community so that our students can experience live music from different cultures.

What will I study?

OCR GCSE MUSIC is made up of three components:

- **Listening exam (40%):** An exam paper with listening exercises and written questions using excerpts of music testing both familiar and unfamiliar pieces.
- **Composition (30%):** Students compose two pieces of music. One is a free choice, and one is linked to a brief set by the exam board.
- **Performances (30%):** Students perform two pieces of music; one as a solo and one as an ensemble.

5 Areas of study (AOS)

AO1 – My Music

- You will study your own instrument and focus on performing and composing.

AOS2 – The Concerto Through Time

- You will study the Concerto (a composition for soloist and orchestra) from 1610 – 1910

AOS3 – Rhythms of the World

- You will study music from India and the Punjab region, Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East, Africa and Central and South America.

AOS4 – Film Music

- You will study music composed for films and video games as well as classical music used in films.

AOS5 – Conventions of Pop

- You will study pop music from the 1950s to the present day focusing on Rock 'n' Roll, Rock Anthems, Pop ballads and Solo Artists.

