

GCE AS Music EDUQAS - Summer Work

You need to think about preparing for the three sections of the course over the summer. In our first three lessons we will be looking at each section of the course individually.

Composition – 30%

For our first lesson we are going to look at Composition. For this course you will need to produce two compositions in your first year. One of them is to a set brief by the exam board. We will receive these briefs in September. I need to see what your styles and capabilities are in composition.

Summer work

You need to create and either score or TAB **three 8 – 12 bar melodies**. They do not have to continue from one to another, so can be in three completely different styles if you wish. If you can record these in a music program or play them live in our lesson this would be helpful.

In addition, I would like you to either score or TAB **three 12 – 16 bar chord progressions**. Again these do not have to be connected. Each idea may have repetition within it. Try to show me that you understand standard and developed chord progressions and in at least one example demonstrate note addition.

Performance – 30%

For your AS performance you need to perform between 6 and 8 minutes of Grade 5 or above. Performances that are under 6 minutes receive a mark of 0. This is marked by a visiting examiner on a date chosen by the exam board between March and May. You must perform a minimum of two pieces.

Summer work

I would like you to prepare one piece of music towards your recital. It will be performed to the class during your second lesson. You may perform in any style, and the performance should be at least 2 minutes in length of pieces at or above Grade 5 standard.

Appraising – 40%

We are studying two areas of study for your AS level.

Area of Study A is Western Classical tradition (the development of the Symphony 1750 – 1830). For this area of study we are looking at Haydn's Symphony No. 104 in D major, movements 1&2.

Area of Study C is Musical Theatre that focuses on the work of 5 composers: Richard Rodgers, Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim, Claude-Michel Schonberg and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

Summer work

You need to listen to the first two movements from the above symphony. Youtube has a number of recordings. I would like you to make initial notes on this piece. Listen to each movement individually and make at least 2 comments on each element of music, try to give a description of each element as it changes throughout the piece.