

Welcome to GCSE Music



West Hill School
Aiming High Since 1927

Specification Information

Listen to
different styles
of music

Compose
your own
music!

Traditional Music
– Blues/Folk

Receive a
FREE weekly
instrumental
lesson

40% final
exam

Perform on
your
instrument

Musical Theatre

60% coursework

–
30% Composition
30% Performance

Rock & Pop Music

Perform with
others

Western Classical
Music

Perform on
your
instrument

World Music

Analyse
different genres
of music!

Film Music

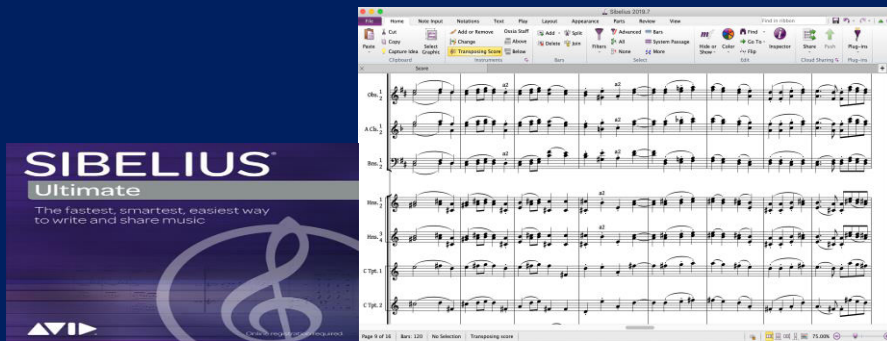


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What you will learn

- You will learn how to **compose your own music** in your chosen style
- You will understand how to use different musical techniques to compose
- You will learn how to **use Sibelius and Logic Pro X** music software to create your music
- You will understand how to **become a more proficient and accomplished performer** on your instrument
- You will demonstrate dedication, perseverance and problem solving skills to **improve your performance skills**
- You will understand how to **recognise musical techniques and features** in music.



Logic Pro X

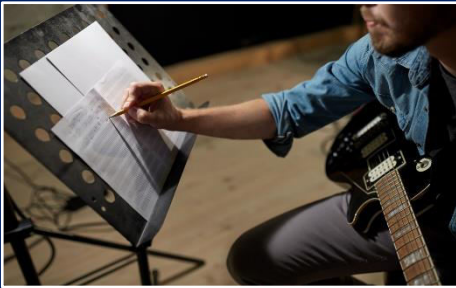


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How you will be assessed/question types/skills

Composition



- Compose 2 pieces of music in your chosen style
- Coursework completed during school lesson time
- 30% of overall grade

Performance



- Perform 2 pieces of music on your instrument
- Performance recorded and submitted to the exam board
- 30% of overall grade

Listening Exam



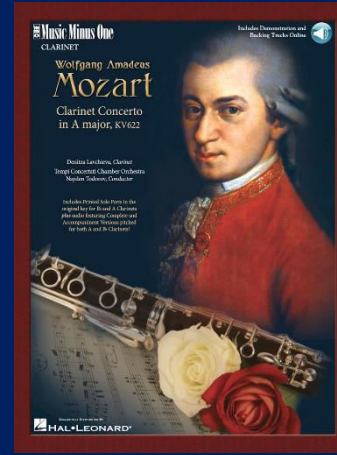
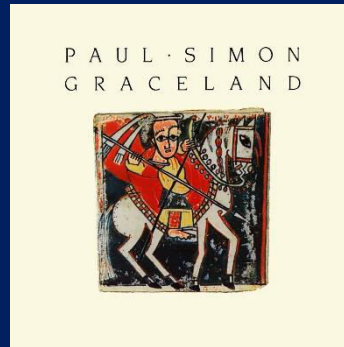
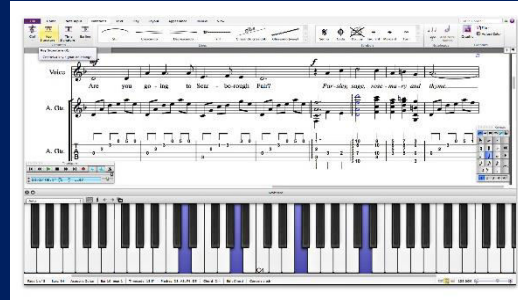
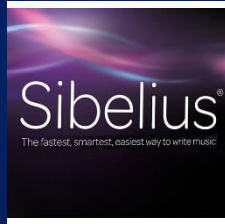
- A final 1 hour 30 minute exam
- Identify features of the music you hear
- Answer questions relating to the set works
- 40% of overall grade



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Resources/example questions/tasks




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Skills developed


GCSE Music will not only enhance your musical skills, but it will also develop and enhance many non-musical skills too. Here is just a small selection -



Builds self
confidence &
self-esteem




Improve team
work and social
skills




Independent
discipline,
Perseverance &
Problem solving



Increases brain
power in all
areas



Improves
performance &
presentation skills



Reduces
anxiety, helps
mental health



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Careers/Next steps

Both employers and universities see creative subjects as assets.

Increasingly, employers and universities are looking for young people who have skills that are learned through creative subjects: creative thinking, emotional intelligence, adaptability, communication and tenacity to name just a few. Universities are keen to attract students who have a well-rounded education and achieve good results, no matter what the subject.

*Music is highly regarded as an
academic subject and so
compliments many other
careers*

Employment in the Music Industry

*performer, composer, sound
technician, music therapist,
community musician, teacher,
concert hall/music venue,*

*medicine, law, accountancy,
police/fire service,
NHS, banking,*

Employment in the Arts/Creative Industries

*film / tv, gaming, theatre,
radio, arts admin, creative
education,*



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Where can you find more information

For more information:

- Music department web page - www.westhillschool.co.uk/curriculum/subject-areas/music
- Follow us on Twitter: @westhillmuse
- Speak to Mr. Wells or Mr. Cross
- Email: wells@westhillschool.co.uk
- <https://www.careersbox.co.uk/careersbox-video/music-technician/>



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Finally...

- If you choose GCSE Music you will receive a **FREE** weekly instrumental lesson
- It is helpful and beneficial to the course if you already play an instrument, but not compulsory. There are other methods to perform. For further clarification as to your suitability for the course, speak to Mr Wells.
- Please don't hesitate to speak to Mr. Wells, Mr. Cross or any of the current Music GCSE students with further questions

GCSE music is in all honesty much harder than I expected. Hard work is required if you want to do well but it is definitely worth it. Every lesson has some time that requires your full attention and can get quite complicated but then also has time where you can relax a bit and talk about less intense topics. Music offers a range of transferable skills. You learn determination, teamwork, self-confidence and self-discipline. These are good skills to have and to mention in an interview. I really enjoy doing the practical side of composition and performing in my GCSE performance and other extra-curricular activities."

"Many of my students – particularly those who may struggle on a day-to-day basis in other areas of the school, or with their mental health – leave their music lessons far happier and less stressed than when they came in. They go to their next lessons with a positive attitude and a different outlook, because they have been totally absorbed in their music."

Francesca Roach, Head of Music
The John Bentley School.

Sam Tilbrook Year 11

West Hill School

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