



Music

One year AS/Two year A level.

This course is aimed at students who enjoy and want to develop further their skills in performing, composing and music appreciation.

Requirements:

The College minimum to start an advanced level course is one grade B and four grade Cs at GCSE. In addition, the subject builds on GCSE Music (preferably grade B or above) and/or grade 5 (Theory and Practical) but talented musicians without these qualifications may be accepted in special circumstances. The student will also be expected to meet the Average Points Score for this subject. A desire to become involved with College ensemble/groups in performing and recording is an important part of this course.

This subject will focus on:

- performing - a recital on your main instrument or voice with a further option of either a second instrument, ensemble performance, performing your own composition or performing an improvisation;
- composing – exercises in harmonising melodies from music in different styles and an instrumental composition for between four to ten instruments; and
- historical topics (listening and analysing) – covering set study pieces from the classical tradition and instrumental jazz repertoire.

You can expect to:

- improve performing skills as a soloist and in ensemble work and to take part in 'live' performances;
- develop an understanding of theoretical concepts and technical language; and
- understand the concepts of tonal western harmony and the expressive use of instrumental/vocal techniques through listening and appraising.

Method of assessment:

Assessment is by coursework portfolio, practical examination and a listening/analysing written examination.

Progression:

Numerous universities and vocational colleges offer a range of music related courses in Higher Education. On completion, students can choose from a wide range of career paths including performance, media, arts administration and teaching.

Music had a 100% pass rate at A Level in 2009.