



## Why study Music at Formby High School?

Music is a unique universal language that provides an opportunity for skill and expression. A passion for music is a must and this course gives you the opportunity to explore music to 'new depths'. You will study all three main disciplines of performing, composing and listening, developing skills and technique over the two year course.

Music is an outstanding subject area at Formby High School and part of our Performing Arts specialism. Our team of academic and peripatetic staff are highly skilled and enthusiastic. You will work in top class facilities, including our recording studio and music technology suites. You will also have the opportunity to work alongside world-class musicians, practitioners and composers to support and enhance your development as a musician.

## What does the course involve?

Our A Level course is a successful option and you will gain experience of composition, be given the opportunity to perform in your preferred style and you will learn how to listen perceptively to every type of music from the

Renaissance to the present day. The course encompasses a huge variety of music from classical, pop, rock, dance, jazz, to film music and is ideal for anyone wanting to deepen their appreciation of music as well as those wishing to make it their career.

As an A Level musician, you will study a three unit course exploring:

- Performance (solo and ensemble)
- Composition
- Appraising

You will explore the world of music through the following areas of study: Vocal Music; Instrumental Music; Music for Film; Popular Music and Jazz; Fusions; and New Directions.

## What can the qualification lead to?

The A Level course is excellent preparation for higher education courses in music, but is equally valuable for non-specialists as a second or third area of study alongside a facilitating subject choice, and is highly rated by top universities. The three units offer a broad and satisfying experience for those who want to extend and enhance their musical studies. Many of our musicians have been successful in gaining places at conservatoires in the UK and abroad, universities and the

armed forces. Our alumni musicians are now working around the world as successful musicians and recording artists, and within the British music and publishing industries.

## What are the entry requirements?

Grade 6 in GCSE Music or grade 5 Music Theory and grade 5 Instrumental, alongside an equivalent level of competency on an instrument, will provide the necessary skill level required to achieve well at A level Music.

## Which other subjects complement Music?

Music students often study one or more of:

- Dance
- Drama and Theatre Studies
- English
- History
- Information Technology (BTEC)
- Modern Foreign Languages (for singers)
- Music Technology
- Performing Arts (BTEC)

## Student Viewpoint



*"The decision to choose A Level Music was clear to me as soon as I got my GCSE results. Although the academic jump is significant in the level of knowledge asked of you, the subject remains fun and intuitive and it brought me out of my shell. Performing has become a regular exercise for me and has pushed me outside my comfort zone, which would not have been possible without the aid of the exceptional skills of the teaching staff. There are countless opportunities for musicians with regular concerts and a multitude of extra-curricular groups; for example, Mundo Afrika, Chamber Choir and G:Force Choir. Although the theory side of the subject is challenging, it is, in equal measures, eye-opening and develops your appreciation and understanding of a wide range of music while continuing to develop both solo and ensemble practical skills. For anyone who feels a passion for music of any form, this is the subject for you and you will be making a choice that you will not regret."*

**Courses will require a minimum number of five students in order to run.**