



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 Creative Arts expertise. 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. 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?

- Drama
- English
- History
- Computing or Digital Media
- Modern Foreign Languages (for singers)
- Music Technology



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Formby's A Level Music course features a wide variety of musical styles which are all incredibly interesting in their own rights; it also helps to broaden my horizon to many composers and artists I wouldn't have listened to before and the detail of which we go into every piece really helps paint the full picture of what the aim of the artist's piece is. Formby also provides many opportunities for recorded performances for solo pieces and as a saxophonist and a Bassoonist, it is a great opportunity to perform on both as they cater for a wide variety of instruments, and it is a great opportunity to solo for bassoon which is a rare opportunity for my instrument. The composition work is brilliant as the course introduces us to many varying styles of work whether it be minimalism or Romantic etc with access of Sibelius and Cubase software. This has really supported me to create the piece I want to create, and I always have the teacher's support in creating my pieces. Certain perks of taking music involve a trip to Amsterdam and many other performance opportunities in the local area.

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Robert chose to stay at Formby High for Sixth Form