

Music



at RHB Sixth Form

Music is one of the most powerful ways to develop *workplace skills* from *creativity* and *teamwork* to *communication* and *adaptability* according to 2026 research by the Royal College of Music. As Oxford University notes, rather than limiting your career prospects *a music degree opens doors* to a wide range of careers.

As a *Steinway Music School*, Royal High Bath offers exceptional facilities: *state-of-the-art* instruments, a professional *recording studio*, a recital room, and dedicated rehearsal spaces.

A Level Music suits students who love music and want to study it in depth, with opportunities in performance, appraisal and composition. Applicants should have *GCSE grade 7 and/or grade 5+* on their instrument or voice.

"Studying music at Royal High Sixth Form offers so many opportunities to build confidence and hone skills, with regular concerts, recitals, and competitions, including Young Musician of the Year."

YANNIS, RHB ALUMNA

HOW IS THE COURSE EXAMINED?

60% of the course is coursework-based 'Non Examined Assessment'.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE COVER?

Pupils choose either Option A to major in Performing or Option B to major in Composing.

Component 1: Performing

Pupils present a recital which may feature solo and ensemble playing.

Option A: Total duration of performances: 10-12 minutes. 35% of qualification

Option B: Total duration of performances: 6-8 minutes. 25% of qualification

Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner

Component 2: Composing:

Option A: Total duration of compositions: 4-6 minutes. 25% of qualification

- Two compositions.
- One free composition (you write your own composition brief) and one brief composition, written in response to a brief set by Eduqas.

Option B: Total duration of compositions: 8-10 minutes. 35% of qualification

- Three compositions.
- One free composition (you write your own composition brief) one brief composition, written in response to a brief set by Eduqas and a third composition linking to a different Area of Study.

Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by WJEC

Component 3: Appraising

Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes (approximately)

40% of qualification

There are three areas of study:

- **AoSA:** The Western Classical Tradition (The Development of the Symphony 1750-1900) which includes two set works:
 - Symphony No. 100 in D major, 'Military' by Haydn
 - Symphony No. 5 by Schubert.
- **A choice** of one area of study from: **AoS B:** Rock and Pop; **AoS C:** Musical Theatre and **AoS D:** Jazz
- **AoS E:** Into the Twentieth Century, including two set works:
 - Trio for Oboe, Bassoon and Piano, Movement I by Poulenc
 - Three Nocturnes, Number 2, Fetes by Debussy

CAREERS

Music is a highly respected A level that can lead to a range of education and employment pathways. In the music industry, being a musician isn't the only career; Music therapy, teaching and sound production are valued and rewarding professions. The creative industries offer openings in film, TV and radio and medicine, law and accountancy all highly regard music as an academic subject. Ultimately, Music provides a range of transferable skills that will provide a good foundation, whatever your career.

ENRICHMENT

Pupils are encouraged to take part in the extensive co-curricular and concerts programme in school. We are proud to be a part of the prestigious Steinway School family and our Music School boasts a state-of-the-art recording studio, recital room and teaching spaces.

HEAD OF SUBJECT

Mrs Amy Ward

EXAM BOARD

Eduqas



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