

Future Prospects

Once you have a GCSE in Music you can go on to do AS, A2 or BTEC in Music, Music Technology or Performing Arts.

We have had several students move across to do Music Technology, as well as other Music Performance and industry related qualifications.

In general terms, this course will help your analysis and listening skills, encouraging you to problem solve independently.

Your performance skills can give your confidence a boost, teaching you how to manage stressful situations as well as being positively self-critical and identifying areas of improvement without negative judgement.



GCSE Music

2020-2022

Please see a member of the Music department for more information

Morley Road, Chaddesden, Derby, DE21 4QX
Headteacher: Mrs Z House
Tel: 01332 671723
Email: schoolinfo@leesbrook.co.uk
Web: www.leesbrook.co.uk

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Reg Office: Thoresby Road, Long Eaton, Nottingham, NG10 3NP

A FOUNDING MEMBER OF



Written Examination: Appraising 40%
Practical Assessment: Performing 30%
Practical Assessment: Composing 30%



Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

- Playing an instrument or singing and currently take private lessons
- Composing and structuring your own music
- Creating music using computers or instruments
- Listening to different types of music including;

Classical, Baroque, Romantic and Modern
Music for Film, Television and Theatre
Fusion and World Music
Modern Pop and Rock

What will I Learn?

You will learn:

- To perform extended pieces of music on your own in front of an audience.
- To perform as a member of an ensemble with your own independent solo part.
- To listen to and analyse different kinds of music, including baroque, classical, musical theatre, film, pop, folk and world music.
- To compare and contrast similar musical excerpts.
- To compose your own music and potentially use computer software to notate it.

What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking the course?

Most students who get a good grade in music GCSE already take private music lessons in an instrument, or singing, which forms the foundation of their abilities to compose, perform and appraise. Eduqas consider Grade 3 to be the 'standard' expectation of students who will get a GCSE grade of 5 or higher in Year 11.

Whilst we will teach you about composition and assist you with performance, there is a clear expectation that you will be doing these activities privately every week to improve your own understanding of the techniques involved. The best grades come from students for whom music is a part of their life beyond the school walls and this may be in the form of lessons, bands, orchestras or even electronic music production and rapping.

The course is broken into three sections. Performing (you need to perform a *solo piece* and an *ensemble piece* of around three minutes each or this can be two ensemble pieces), Composing (two good compositions, one set by the exam board, one created by yourself, both showcasing your understanding of music and devices) and an exam (half of it testing your general musical knowledge and the other half comparing and contrasting two pieces). There are two 'set works' which are pieces of music that by the end of the course you should know intimately.

Eduqas Specification for GCSE Music can be found by searching 'Eduqas GCSE Music' which contains full details and the mark schemes involved.

