

# Music

**Exam board:** Edexcel

**Entry requirements:**

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Music, or Grade 5 standard on an instrument or voice

**Course content:**

Develop your skills through performing;  
Develop musical ideas through composition;  
Gain a depth of understanding of the development of music in specific areas;

- Rock and Pop or
- Jazz or
- Musical Theatre
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- Fusions
- New Directions



**Assessment:**

Unit 1: Performing: Solo/Ensemble Performances – 10 - 12 minutes. (30%).

Unit 2: Composing: 1 Free Composition & 1 Composition to a Brief Assessing Compositional Technique. (30%).

Unit 3: 2 Hour Examination that includes listening and essay writing (40%).

**Why choose music:**

Choose music if you want to perform, compose and are interested in the development of music over the centuries. If you are planning a career in music – be that in teaching, performance or composition, then this course will give you the grounding you need to move on to a specialist degree course. However, it's also suited to those that simply love the subject, enjoy performance and want to develop their skills in this area. The course has a large amount of coursework, enabling you to explore different ways of working. You will mix classroom time with listening, practical sessions and composition seminars. There are many opportunities at FSG to perform in a variety of choirs and ensembles and alongside professional musicians.

**Skills and progression:**

*"The varied nature of [music study] enables students to develop highly desirable skills in areas such as self-management, creativity, data analysis, performance, teamwork, problem-solving, and communication, all of which makes them an attractive prospect for potential employers."*

*From Oxford University's website.*

This course encourages students to develop a range of musical skills, knowledge and understanding. It will broaden experience, foster creativity and promote personal and social development through musical communication. Students who have studied A level music at FSG in recent years have gone on to pursue musical careers in music therapy, music education, arts administration, playing in London Orchestras, singing with an opera company, travelling the world performing on cruise ships, music studios, theatre music and many different performance roles. Those taking a non-music route after A level have found the skills learnt useful to pursue study in broadcasting, publishing, law and politics.