

# Parents' guide to controlled assessment – MUSIC

<b>How much is it worth?</b>	<b>What has to be done?</b>	
<p>There are four controlled assessments for GCSE Music.</p> <p>Unit 1: (30% of the final grade)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solo Performance (15%)</li> <li>• Ensemble Performance (15%)</li> </ul> <p>Each performance is marked out of 30</p> <p>Unit 2: (30% of the final grade)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Composition 1 (15%)</li> <li>• Composition 2 (15%)</li> </ul> <p>Each composition is marked out of 30</p> <p>Grade boundaries for both units: 27/30 for *A 24/30 for A 21/30 for B 18/30 for C 15/30 for D</p> <p>The final GCSE grade is made up of <b>60% controlled assessment</b> <b>40% examination</b> (completed in June of Yr11)</p>	<p><b>Solo Performance</b> Students will perform a solo piece which can be accompanied by piano or CD. Pieces that are unaccompanied such as a study are also acceptable.</p> <p><b>Ensemble Performance</b> Students will play an ensemble piece with two or more players</p> <p>The performances should be approximately grade three standard. If a more difficult piece is performed then the student will be awarded accordingly. However students will get more credit for playing an easier piece accurately than playing a harder piece less accurately.</p> <p><b>Composition</b> Students will compose two pieces influenced by music from the areas of study. Each composition must be from a different area of study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area of Study 1: Western classical music 1600 - 1899</li> <li>• Area of Study 2: Music in the 20<sup>th</sup> century</li> <li>• Area of Study 3: Popular music in context</li> <li>• Area of Study 4: World music</li> </ul> <p>Compositions are completed under controlled conditions (but generally in the music classroom or practice rooms). Students will be given 10hrs per composition.</p> <p>Students will be given advice and feedback on their compositions at suitable points during the composition period.</p>	
<b>When is it done?</b>	<b>Can parents help their children?</b>	<b>If the mark is low, can it be re-done or improved?</b>
<p><b>Performance</b> We run informal assessment sessions throughout Yr10 and Yr11.</p> <p>The <b>final</b> performance exam will be early in the Spring term of Yr11.</p> <p><b>Composition</b> In Music we work on composition 1 in the summer term of Yr10. Composition 2 will then be completed in the Autumn term.</p>	<p>Parental support is always welcome in Music especially in music performance. We encourage parents to attend the Musician of the Year concert in the Spring term, which will help to prepare students for their exams.</p> <p>Composition ideas can be thought through with parents; however the writing up process will be completed in school under controlled conditions.</p>	<p><b>Performance</b> We encourage students to work on their performances throughout the year. Through peer and teacher assessments the students will be aware of how well they are achieving in their performances.</p> <p><b>Composition</b> Students will have the opportunity to improve/resubmit their compositions in the Spring term in Yr11.</p>