

## Introduction

The specification for Music in a “normal” year comprises of 3 units which together count towards the overall award of the Music GCSE.

<p><b>Unit 1: Performing</b> (Duration 4-6 minutes)</p> <p><b>Section A: Performing</b> A minimum of two pieces, one of which must be an ensemble performance of at least one minute duration. The other piece(s) may be either solo and/or ensemble. One of the pieces performed must link to an area of study of the learner's choice.</p> <p><b>Section B: Programme Note</b> A programme note for one of the pieces chosen for performance, linked to an area of study.</p>
<p><b>Unit 2: Composing</b> (Duration 3-6 minutes)</p> <p><b>Section A: Composing</b> Two compositions, one of which must be in response to a brief set by WJEC. Learners will choose one brief from a choice of four, each one linked to a different area of study. The briefs will be released during the first week of September in the academic year in which the assessment is to be taken. The second composition is a free composition for which learners set their own brief.</p> <p><b>Section B: Evaluating</b> An evaluation of the piece composed in response to a brief set by WJEC.</p>
<p><b>Unit 3: Appraising</b></p>

In June 2020 WJEC announced amendments to the course due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The amendments are as followed:

### Unit 1: Performing

- Reduction of the minimum time for performance from 4 minutes to 1 minute 30 seconds for a solo performance or 2 minutes if an ensemble is included.
- One or more pieces should be performed to make the total time and learners should still produce a programme note.

### Unit 2: Composing

- Reduction from two compositions to one composition. The briefs have been released as normal but using them is optional in 2021.
- Learners will not be required to evaluate their composition.

### Unit 3: Appraising

- There have been no amendments to the appraising exam.

## Sources of evidence for Centre Determined Grades in Music

Assessment point 1 = Performance Exam, First attempt. This was monitored by the class teacher under **high control**.

Assessment point 2 = Past paper questions which used questions from the 2018 Mock exam paper. This exam was completed online using Microsoft forms. The lesson was completed under **medium control** using WJEC past papers and mark schemes in the week beginning the 4<sup>th</sup> of January.

Assessment point 3 = The submission of the first draft for the unit 2 to be handed in to class teacher W/B 12<sup>th</sup> February, under **medium control**.

Assessment point 4 = Completion of unit 2 including the composition log, under **medium control** to be handed in 26<sup>th</sup> March

Assessment point 5 = Completion of unit 1 under **high control**. This will include an audio recording of pupil's performance and a completed programme note. **(14<sup>th</sup> May)**

Assessment point 6 = Standardised assessment materials provided by WJEC to assess all covered content for unit 3. This assessment will be completed over the course of a week under **high control**. **(W/B 24<sup>th</sup> May)**

Class work = A range of knowledge and skills are demonstrated by students in lessons Music through their performance in low stakes summative assessment which includes recall tests, quizzes, verbal answers to question, small tasks carried out that are not necessarily graded or levelled, longer independent learning tasks and other low stakes tests such as use of online resources.