

GCSE Music

Subject Guidance for Summer 2021

GCSE Music

Exceptional Assessment Adaptations (for 2020–2021)

**GCSE Music
(Summer 2021 only)**

TEACHER GUIDANCE

Guidance for the delivery of GCSE Music in 2020/21

GCSE Music

These are the arrangements for GCSE Music submission in 2021:

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| Component 1: Performing and Appraising | The visit by a CCEA examiner has been removed. Candidates will only complete the solo performance (maximum 4 minutes) and evaluative discussion (removal of ensemble performance). The examinations are to be conducted by the centre and submitted as audio recordings to CCEA for examination by the specified date on the examination timetable. |
| Component 2: Composing | Candidates will only submit Composition A/free composition and supporting document for moderation. This single composition will be marked out of 30 as normal by the centre. Composition length 1½ - 3 minutes. As a guide, to reflect the reduction of assessment burden in this component, candidates should be given <i>approximately 12.5 hours</i> to complete the composition task. |
| Component 3: Listening and Appraising | No adaptations |

These omissions only apply for candidates cashing in for the qualification-level grade in Summer 2021.

Performance Examinations – Arrangements apply at both GCSE and GCE level

The solo performance and evaluative discussion/viva voce are to be recorded in **one take**. This recording will be **audio** only. The teacher and candidate will authenticate the recording at the beginning by reading out a short script. The teacher will pose the evaluative discussion/viva voce questions to the candidate once the solo performance is complete. This is to be done under normal examination conditions with no prompts in the room or assistance given in any way. Only the teacher, candidate, and accompanist – if required or not the teacher – are permitted in the examination room.

The Examination

The music teacher should draft an examination timetable for their centre and each candidate be informed of their examination time well in advance of the proposed date. These arrangements should be supported by the centre and appropriate teacher cover provided to facilitate the Music Department undertaking these examinations. In the event of exceptional or COVID-related circumstances, whereby a candidate is not in school, a teacher should reschedule the examination time for this candidate at the earliest opportunity. Once the performance examination commences, a candidate will not be allowed to repeat the performance examination and the recording should not be stopped at any stage throughout the

examination. CCEA encourages centres to ensure they have allowed sufficient time to complete these examinations well before the deadline in the event of further disruption to school life.

Recording

It is important that centres complete sound checks to ensure the best sound quality is achieved before the recording commences. Consideration should be given to the placement of the performer, accompanist and recording device(s) in order to achieve a good, well-balanced recording. Consideration also needs to be given to the candidate's position in the room during the evaluative discussion/viva voce questions. It is imperative that at least two copies of the examination recording are made and these are stored in two different secure locations within the centre.

Candidates should note that they are not permitted to listen to the recording of their performance examination.

Introductory Verbal Authentication

Centres are not required to complete the Candidate Assessment Forms (CAF) this year. The following information should be read out clearly at the beginning of each candidate's examination recording. Thereafter, the recording must not be stopped until the completion of the questions.

Teacher: *The centre is [school name] and the centre number is [71___]. My name is [teacher's name]. The following recording is for [GCSE performance G9711/AS performance SMU11/A2 performance AMU11].*

Candidate: *My name is [pupil's name] and my candidate number is [cand. number]. For my GCSE/GCE performance examination I will be playing [insert instrument] at Grade [insert grade number] level.*

Teacher or Candidate: *The programme to be performed is as follows: [list pieces of music in order to be performed, including composers].*

(If applicable, detail any additional use of technology or instrumental accompaniment.)

Evaluation Discussion Questions/Viva Voce

Immediately following the performance, the teacher is required to pose the following questions to the candidate. These questions are similar to those in previous years. The teacher must not ask supplementary or follow-up questions. This discussion should be within the normal time limit and completed without notes, under normal examination conditions.

GCSE (Approx. 3 minutes)

- i. Please tell me the title(s) and composer(s) of the piece(s) you performed.*
- ii. Identify the style of the piece(s) or period in which it was/they were written.*
- iii. How does the music reflect the period or style in which it was written?*
- iv. What challenges did you encounter in the music?*
- v. How did you overcome these challenges?*
- vi. Is there anything else about your performance that you would still like to mention?*

AS (Approx. 4 minutes) and A2 (Approx. 5 minutes)

- i. Why did you choose this programme?*
- ii. Identify the style of the piece(s) or period in which it was/they were written.*
- iii. How does the music reflect the period or style in which it was written?*

- iv. What challenges did you encounter in the music when preparing for your performance, and how did you overcome these?*
- v. How have other recordings of your selected pieces, or wider listening, influenced your performance?*
- vi. Is there anything else about your performance that you would still like to mention?*

Upload of Recordings

These audio performances will be uploaded onto eSubmissions (in a similar way to the compositions) by the deadline on the examination timetable. It may be possible for centres to upload performances once their entries are on the system. An additional copy of the examination recording should be retained by the centre in a secure area.