

Dear Parents,

The Music Department wanted to share some upcoming dates for your diaries. This is the next course of study up until February half term. Students are currently working towards 15% of their GCSE with their second compositions in full swing. They are also practising hard at their solo and ensemble performances which make up another 30% of their final GCSE.

1. Composition 1 re-draft: Tuesday 3rd December. Students have been working on improving their compositions from Year 10 with minor tweaks being undertaken. As mocks are approaching, it is important we complete these and have them ready to send off, so we can focus on the rest of the coursework. Students can send these to me via Bandlab or email.
2. Music GCSE Mock Exam: Tuesday 3rd December. This will be a complete full paper, with the set work; *Mozart Clarinet Concerto*. The only exception will be a reduced section on *Paul Simon's Graceland*. Students can use the resource hub to revise from along with BBC bitesize and musictheory.net which are both linked. <https://sites.google.com/view/performingartshub/music/gcse-music/revision-materials-m>
3. First Ensemble Practice: 13th December. In class, students have been working on a group piece with their peers or instrumental teachers. In the lesson, on the 13th, each group will perform their piece and it will be marked, with feedback. Even if they are planning on performing this with someone outside of school, they will still be expected to perform their part on this date.
4. First draft of Composition 2: 20th December. Students have picked a brief and have started writing a piece of music to represent this. By this date, students will be expected to have completed at least 1 minute 30 seconds of a main melody and chord progression. This should also include at least 2 contrasting sections. This will be handed in via Bandlab or can be emailed to me.
5. Second Ensemble Practice: 31st January. This is another chance to gain feedback on their group performances. (Even if they are planning on performing this with someone outside of school, they will still be expected to perform their part on this date.)
6. Second draft of Composition 2: 7th February. By this date, students will be expected to have completed at least 1 minute 30 seconds of a main melody, chord progression, bassline and counter melody. This should also include at least 2 contrasting sections. This will be handed in via Bandlab or can be emailed to me.

I look forward to seeing their progress over the next few weeks, and please don't hesitate to contact me with any concerns/queries.

Kind Regards,



Maisie Beggan
Head of Music