

***“A painter paints pictures on canvas. But musicians paint their pictures on silence.”***

Leopold Stokowski

### *Inspiring the next generation of musicians*

The Eduqas GCSE course is designed to help you develop your musical knowledge, understanding and skills through studying a wide range of music from different cultures.

There are many benefits to taking the GCSE music course:

- It gives equal weighting to performance and composition, providing the opportunity for you to develop and progress equally in both skills.
- It includes four areas of study, enabling you to learn about musical elements, musical language and musical contexts through specific pieces of music.
- Suggested wider listening pieces relating to the areas of study will help you to appraise unfamiliar music in the exam as well as appraise and refine your own performances and compositions.

### *How will GCSE Music help me in the future?*

In the future, creativity is going to be one of the most important in-demand skills at work. (World Economic Forum)

This means that the study of creative subjects, like music, is becoming even more important and relevant to young people to give you the chance to succeed – whatever your ambitions. At the same time, you will find many opportunities to develop and improve your personal wellbeing both independently and as part of a wider community.

### *Why study GCSE Music in Thomas Tallis School?*

When studying Music at Tallis you will have the opportunity to develop as a performer, composer and musicologist. You will be able to use and cultivate your analysis skills through both a practical and academic sense in class, working with specialist practitioners and in your own research.



## What will I do?

Your teachers will decide how best to cover all that you need to do, but typical classroom activities could be:

Performing (playing music) on your own and in a group. This could be in any style, on any instrument or voice, including DJ skills, rapping, singing, band and orchestral instruments.

Exploring how great pieces of music were put together, then when you have learnt some of the techniques, composing your own music. This could involve using computer software, writing for a specific purpose, writing songs etc.

Listening to a variety of music and learning how to identify the facts about what you hear. You will already have heard about the elements of music in your Key Stage 3 lessons. At GCSE you focus on how these are used for different purposes.

The Eduqas GCSE Music course has three components: Performing, Composing and Appraising (Listening). The following chart shows you a summary of what you will complete.

### Component 1 Performing 30% Teacher assessed

A minimum of two pieces, lasting a total of 4-6 minutes, recorded in the year of assessment:

One piece must be an ensemble (group piece) lasting at least one minute

One piece linked to an Area of Study (see below)

Grade 3 music is the standard level and can score full marks if played perfectly

You can use any instrument or voice

### Component 2 Composing 30% Teacher assessed

Two pieces:

One in response to a brief set by WJEC – there are 4 to choose from each year.

One free composition – ANY style you want to write in.

### Component 3 Appraising 40% Externally assessed examination

Listening examination:

8 questions, 2 on each area of study:

AoS 1 Musical Forms and Devices (including a set work\*)

AoS 2 Music for Ensemble

AoS 3 Film Music

AoS 4 Popular Music (including a set work\*)

#### *Reasons to choose music:*

- You can develop your existing performance ability and use this towards achieving a GCSE.
- If you already enjoy writing your own music or songs, you can use this ability and experience, and learn how to develop your ideas into successful pieces.
- If you love listening to music, you will learn more about what makes the music you enjoy work so well.