

Welcome to A-Level Music 2026

We follow the Eduqas specification which includes performance composition and appraising. You will study the following topics for the listening paper:

- AoS A – Western Classical Music: Development of the Symphony
- AoS C – Musicals
- AoS E – Into the 20th Century

Bridging Work

Total time: approx. 2–3 hours

This work is designed to introduce you to key ideas we will study in Year 12 and help you have a background grounding in the different periods of music history.

Task 1: Music Theory (45 minutes)

Musictheory.net

- *The Basics* – all sections
- *Rhythm and Metre* – all sections
- *Scales and Key Signatures* – all sections
- *Intervals* – all sections

Task 2: Music History (60 minutes)

<https://alevelmusic.com/4-short-history-of-music/>

Read the information on the history of music from the link above. Think about how music developed and what changed through each period as you listen to examples.

What is your favourite piece and why?	Choose something about one of the other tracks that interests you (e.g. instrumentation, harmony, rhythm). Describe this aspect of the music and why you find it interesting.	What is your least favourite track? Describe two aspects of this track that you think contribute to your opinion

Task 3: Performance (45 minutes)

Make sure you don't neglect your playing during this break.

- polish up a piece you are already working on and video it.
- resurrect an older piece that you really enjoyed. You will be able to play it better now you are a bit more advanced. Listen to some performances of the piece on Apple Music/Spotify/Youtube. What do you like about these performances? Is there anything you can incorporate. Again, you could video your performance.

Optional Extension (not included in time):

1. Use this link to complete other transition tasks:

<https://alevelmusic.com/as-handbook/year-11-transition-to-a-level-music/>

Please note this is an excellent resource for A level music, but is from another school, so do not email them any of your extra activities!

2. Watch the Howard Goodall series of the history of music

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I0Y6NPahIDE&list=PLX_3mlborR3gZlwKFbuY1hlGJuzlwiyJ

3. Attend BBC Proms to watch concerts with Symphonies
4. Watch musicals