

Subject: Music

Qualification: GCSE

What assessments are we using?

WJEC has made available to centres a series of GCSE past papers, which have been adapted to reflect changes to the specification for summer 2021.

The department has identified which of these papers will be utilised within the assessment materials.

The assessment materials used have been selected based on coverage of the specification by the department, to allow learners the best opportunity to demonstrate their ability in the subject.

The department will ensure that learners are given the opportunity to showcase their capacities in the widest range of skills across all learning objectives.

Teachers will ensure that the assessment tasks are incorporated appropriately into their teaching and learning programme.

Evidence to be used to inform CDG judgements:

1. WJEC Adapted Past Papers

<u>Unit to be assessed:</u>	<u>Assessment chosen:</u>	<u>Assessment details:</u>	<u>Dates of assessment:</u>
Unit 1 – Performing	Coursework	1 performance recorded 30% Programme Note – written submission 5%	By 16 th April In class
Unit 2 – Composing	Coursework	1 Composition recorded and printed. 35%	By 16 th April In class
Unit 3 - Appraising	WJEC Paper	Adapted Past Paper 30%	Wednesday 12 th May Lessons 3-4 – In class exam conditions. Control 3.

2. NEA - N/A

3. Pupils have completed a range of past paper questions during KS4 and these have been marked in accordance with the WJEC mark scheme. This work has contributed to the tracking data used to monitor pupil progress across KS4. Control 3.

Levels of control:

- 1 In class/open book/ teacher support provided
- 2 In class / open book
- 3 In class/no book/ test conditions
- 4 Exam conditions and venue.

GCSE Grade Descriptors

The WJEC-set grade descriptors are provided to give a general indication of the standards of achievement likely to have been shown by learners awarded particular grades. The descriptors must be interpreted in relation to the content set out in the GCSE specification (as adapted for 2021).

The most appropriate grade to award will depend in practice upon the extent to which the learner has met the assessment objectives overall. Shortcomings in some aspects of the evidence may be balanced by better performances in others. The WJEC-set grade descriptors for music can be found [here](#).

Further T&L required / support for learners

Pupils have been taught all topics within the specification; they have been provided with a wealth of revision materials, including links to online revision materials specifically linked to the specification. NO adaptations will be made regarding the appraising paper as all topics have been covered. The modifications made by WJEC regarding the amount of coursework etc to be submitted has been met, so no modifications need be made in this area either.

Grades will be determined according to the WJEC guidelines.

Pupils will not be informed which past paper/s they will be completing but there are only 2 options as this is a new specification.

How will the assessments be undertaken?

Performing

All pupils will submit evidence of their performing skills. This is according to the guidelines and will be one performance piece. This is recorded. This is marked according to the modified marking scheme for 2021.

The programme note will be written (500-1000) words) and marked according to the original marking guidelines (and carried into the modified MS).

Composing

All pupils will submit evidence of their composing skills. This is according to the guidelines and will be one composition. This is recorded and submitted as a written score. This is marked according to the modified marking scheme for 2021.

Appraising

All pupils will complete a recent past paper. This will be marked in accordance with the marks scheme from WJEC. This is not modified as all aspects of the course have been covered.

Delivery of assessment tasks

All pupils will need to submit their coursework by April 16th. This is practiced at home, in class and during extra-curricular opportunities provided by the department. Recordings will be made by video or audio and will be verified by the head of department. No feedback will be provided to learners on the scores attained in the assessment tasks. Modified assessment materials will be provided, where required, following consultation with the ALNCo. All learners entitled to additional time will be provided with this opportunity.

Outline of procedures for marking, feedback and QA:

Assessments will be marked using WJEC Mark Schemes by HOD after a quarantine period in line with the school COVID risk assessment policy. Papers will be stored securely in a locked area within the department. A sample of a variety of grades plus candidates where the grade is debateable will be discussed in an NPT Music HODS meeting. This will ensure some moderation has been undertaken. All coursework will be moderated by April 26th. Once all assessments are marked and moderated the evidence will be collated and submitted to DH.

How will a final grade be determined?

Each pupil's grade will be determined using a 'best-fit' model, whereby strengths in some areas may balance shortcomings elsewhere. When determining the grade, we will take account of unit and assessment objective weightings in the specification (including the effect of any adaptations) and consider each learner's evidence in relation to the WJEC grade descriptors. Any extenuating circumstances will be considered before the final grade is allocated. The final grade will be based on a judgement of evidence collected across units and assessment objectives, taking account of any adaptations made for 2021. All grades awarded will undergo stringent moderation procedures to ensure accuracy and consistency.

What is the contingency plan if pupils are absent/self-isolating?

We have allowed plenty of time for assessment completion before the final CDG submission date. This gives us 'catch-up' time if pupils were absent or isolating and have missed specific assessments. All learners will sit the assessment at the same time, but if a pupil is absent on their return to school, they can still sit the same paper as the track listings of the papers are not published so pupils will be unable to prepare for specific questions. As Qualification Wales states staff cannot predict or provide grades on potential, pupils who have provided us with no assessment evidence over the year will not be able to achieve a grade and will therefore be allocated a 'U'.

Malpractice, Maladministration and Plagiarism

- For the purpose of this document 'malpractice' is defined as:
Any act, or failure to act, that threatens or compromises the integrity of the assessment process or the validity of qualifications and their certification. This includes: maladministration and the failure to maintain appropriate records or systems; the deliberate falsification of records or documents for any reason connected to the award of qualifications; acts of plagiarism or other academic misconduct; and/or actions that compromise the reputation or authority of YBB, its officers and employees.
- YBB will report all relevant cases of suspected malpractice to Awarding Bodies, accepting that in certain circumstances Awarding Bodies may take action of its own, including imposing sanctions.
- All subject assessment plans will include a section on malpractice, maladministration and plagiarism.

Some examples of pupil malpractice are described below. These examples are not exhaustive and all incidents of suspected malpractice, whether or not described below, will be fully investigated, where there are sufficient grounds to do so.

- Obtaining assessment material without authorisation.
- Collaborating with another pupil or individual, by any means, to complete an assessment, unless it has been clearly stated that such collaboration is permitted.
- Damaging another pupil's work.
- Failure to comply with published awarding bodies' examination regulations.
- Disruptive behaviour or unacceptable conduct, including the use of offensive language, at the school (including aggressive or offensive language or behaviour).
- Misrepresentation or plagiarism.
- Possession of any materials not permitted in the assessment room, regardless of whether or not they are relevant to the assessment, or whether or not the pupil

refers to them during the assessment process, for example notes, blank paper, electronic devices including mobile phones, smart watches, personal organisers, books, dictionaries / calculators (when prohibited).

- Communicating in any form, for example verbally or electronically, with other pupils in the assessment room when it is prohibited.
- Copying the work of another pupil or knowingly allowing another pupil to copy from their own work.
- Failure to comply with instructions given by the class teacher, including but not limited to: a) working beyond the allocated time; b) refusing to hand in assessment script / paper when requested; c) not adhering to warnings relating to conduct during the assessment.

Examples of malpractice by, teachers and other officers, are listed below. These examples are not exhaustive and all incidents of suspected malpractice, whether or not described below, will be fully investigated, where there are sufficient grounds to do so.

- Allowing pupils to copy another pupil's assessment work.
- Allowing pupils to work collaboratively during an assessment, unless specified in the assessment brief.
- Completing the assessment for a pupil or providing them with assistance beyond that "normally" expected
- Failing to report a suspected case of pupil malpractice, including plagiarism, to the HT / DH and subsequently the awarding body.
- Failing to keep assessment question papers, assessment scripts or other assessment materials secure, before during or after the assessment.
- Allowing disruptive behaviour or unacceptable conduct to go unchallenged.
- Where there is malpractice it is dealt with under the disciplinary policy of the school and the awarding body will be informed.