

A level Music – at Prior Park Summer Assignment

WJEC/EDUQAS

<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/music/as-a-level/>



Welcome to the course. I am hugely looking forward to working with such talented and enthusiastic musicians. We are going to have a good time, and achieve great things, after all, music is not so much a school subject as a **way of life**. Look at the website to see what's coming up.

During the course you will...

Perform ... solos in recitals, ensembles, groups, singing, playing. All performing is valuable. I want you to be strong, confident, ambitious soloists and keen contributors to choirs and ensembles.

Compose.... two pieces, one of which should be in a classical music style. They will be performed and recorded too, probably by the professional players of New Music South West. And we will learn how to write proper harmony like all the greats learned to do. This is called Harmony and Counterpoint (H + C).

Listen, Analyze and Understand

some of the finest classical pieces in the world, especially

- Haydn *Symphony No 104 in D*
- Debussy *Nuages (Clouds)*

... and also great jazz performances by musicians such as

- The New Orleans Rhythm Kings with Leon Roppolo (clarinet) (*Tin Roof Blues*)
- Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie (*Koko*)

Research over the summer

1. **Listen** and get to know this music a little over the summer. It would be great if you came back in September knowing them already, both about the composers and the performers.
2. **What is the Proms?** Find out, and get stuck in. Read the programme, tune in, and then read tomorrow morning's reviews. Perhaps even... GO!! They could change your life.
3. **Read good books.** Books about music will transform you as a music student. If it's your birthday soon, ask for Donald Jay Grout *A History of Western Music*.
4. Look up the course: www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/music/as-a-level/

Tasks over the summer

1. Write a short piece over the summer; however good or bad, it will make things much easier next term.
2. Listen to at least 5 Proms and make notes about the concerts. I will want to read about the **PIECES PLAYED, WHO PERFORMED, WHEN THE PIECES WERE WRITTEN, WHETHER YOU LIKED IT AND WHY** - in as much detail as possible!