

Music Department

Supporting Your Child in the Senior Phase

H/AH Music

1. Performing
2. Composing
3. Understanding

Performing

Final performing exam in
February/March (May for Advanced
Higher)

Worth 60% of final mark

All candidates play 2 instruments for
total time of:

10 minutes (Higher)

15 minutes (Advanced Higher)

Exam programme needs to be planned soon

Programme needs to be timed precisely and played with accompaniment (where appropriate)

Recordings/assessments will be made throughout course as pieces are completed (evidence)

Prelim in January (H) or March (AH) – full exam programme to be played

Regular practice on both instruments – provide an audience occasionally

Work with backing tracks where provided

Involve private instrumental tutors in discussion about exam – clear communication through student

Some instruments available to borrow from music department

Own choice of music may involve purchasing music and backing tracks

Composing

No composing assignment this year. Highers will work on composing activities which will help them should they choose AH music next year.

Understanding/Listening

- Assessed under exam conditions in May.
- Worth 40% of final mark

Understanding

- Taught using concepts.
- Students must be able to demonstrate their understanding of all level-specific concepts in the context of listening and theory questions and activities.
- Concepts are categorised by level, topic and type e.g. rhythmic, melodic etc.

Example:

- Jig – a fast dance in compound time.
- Compound time – each beat divides into 3
- [Jig example](#)
- [Compound time](#)

Understanding:

- Able to give an accurate definition
- Able to apply that knowledge in contexts such as:
 - Identifying and describing features within an excerpt of music
 - Analysing and identifying features in written music.

How to help:

- Encourage students to use these websites:
- ataea.co.uk
- mymusiconline.co.uk (music17)
- youtube.com
- [Mr Bisson's Music Revision](#)
- Test students' vocabulary
- Refer to notes/materials in Teams

Theory

- Encourage students to use theory/literacy quizzes on websites previously listed.
- For basic practice, use musicteacher.com
- Test their understanding of Italian vocabulary e.g. *allegro*, *con sordino*
- Encourage use of Associated Board music theory books for more challenge.

Any questions?

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