



Summer Transition Work

A Level Music - Eduqas

Hoe Valley Sixth Form

Dear Student,

Over the summer we want you to complete the following tasks below to help you make a successful transition from GCSE to Sixth Form study. Our summer transition work includes elements to help you feel like a pro when your sixth form journey begins!

Preparation

Below are some tasks that will help to introduce you to knowledge required for the start of the course or to consolidate key GCSE level material.

Understanding the course:

This link takes you to three PPTs on the Eduqas website which outline the course in detail. They are written for students so take some to read these carefully and make sure your sound is up!

<https://resources.eduqas.co.uk/Pages/ResourceSingle.aspx?rId=1542>

Music Theory and Understanding:

Making sure you are up to date with your music theory is one of the most important things you can do to prepare for A level. One of the best websites that is free is www.musictheory.net. Aim to complete all the online lessons and / or work through the ABRSM Discovering Theory workbooks up to grade 5. You need to have prior knowledge of the content of Grade 5 Theory to cope well with A level Music. This is the 'gold standard': [Discovering Music Theory, The ABRSM Grade 5 Workbook \(Theory workbooks \(ABRSM\)\): Amazon.co.uk: ABRSM: 9781786013491: Books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Discovering-Music-Theory-The-ABRSM-Grade-5-Workbook-Theory-workbooks-ABRSM/dp/0719134914)

GCSE Consolidation of Key Terms:

Here are some useful documents - check you understand all these key terms.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dww6fJnJTzVI4hQKSL58c5K9MuN6WW23/view?usp=drive_link

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yWnw06IFCmajuiPSaMShMGILS4IUvQGn/view?usp=drive_link

Perform:

I will ask to hear you perform within the first two weeks of term so please have a solo on your main instrument ready to show me. I don't mind what it is - as long as it shows you to the best of your ability. It can be something you've played before or something new - the choice is yours!

Compose: a new piece of music that features your own instrument. How can you showcase the key features of your instrument (or voice)? Use any software available to you (Bandlab / Flat / Muscore / Garageband etc), and write for solo instrument with or without accompaniment.

Listen: The more types of music you listen to, the more accomplished you will become as a musician. Try these tasks:

- Part of the key content for A Level Music is studying the Development of the Symphony. Listen to a symphony of your choice and write a review of it. Here are some recommendations: Beethoven *Symphony No 9*, Tchaikovsky *Symphony No 5*, Mozart *Symphony No 40*
- Another key topic is musical theatre. Watch a musical with a member of your family. Have a discussion afterwards, what were the best bits? Why? What was your favourite song/character
- Create a Spotify playlist for a specific musical style, composer, or musical period. You can only include 10 tracks. What would your choices be? Create a short explanation of why you've chosen each track. Here are some musical styles you could explore: impressionism, the Baroque period, nationalism...

Reading

Below is some essential reading material or some titles that will help you to read around your subject and develop a deeper understanding of the subject, a crucial skill for success in the Sixth Form.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1piRf_HC51mOdpsilxZMfUP6rZD_Jdnt1/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=115042707902671363298&rtpof=true&sd=true

Organisation

Please ensure that you have an A4 lined paper pad (with a margin), a small ring binder (for the day-to-day notes), a lever arch file (to be kept at home for storing your notes) and lots of dividers (to store your notes by unit). You may also find it useful to have a box file or large document file for booklets etc that we will give you. We will give you an A4 manuscript notebook for your composition, theory and harmony work. Please make sure you have a good supply of HB pencils, a small ruler and a good quality rubber. You will also have music software on your chromebook and on the Music department computers.

Finally, watch this video on effective note taking. What will you try out this year?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7CwqNHn_Ns&t=367s