

GCSE to A Level Music Transition Project

To fully prepare yourselves for A Level Music, you will have to become comfortable with the following three areas:

- Listening/Theory
- Composing
- Performing

To help you prepare, we have set three small tasks which you must complete before the start of the new course. These are not optional, as we will be using what you prepare over the summer during our “Introduction to A Level Music” topic.

Task 1: Listening/Theory

1. Use the website www.musictheory.net to develop your understanding of all areas of music theory. It is important that you address any gaps in your subject knowledge, particularly with reading/following scores, as you will be using them in most theory lessons. Follow the instructional guides/lessons and then test yourself using the online tests. You will need to use this website regularly so that you can develop your theory knowledge and understanding – don’t just visit it once! *It is also available on the app store.*
2. Listen to the song “Uptight” by Stevie Wonder. Research the context behind the song (e.g. release dates, writing process etc) and analyse the main musical features of the track. Produce a piece of extended writing (no more than 500 words) which covers the following areas; Context, melody, chord progression, other musical features.

Task 2: Composing

On your instrument try to create a short piece of original music. You may wish to use a song as inspiration, but your final piece must be solely your own work.

Task 3: Performance

Develop your repertoire so that you have up to three songs which you can play confidently and accurately up to a difficulty of grade 7.

