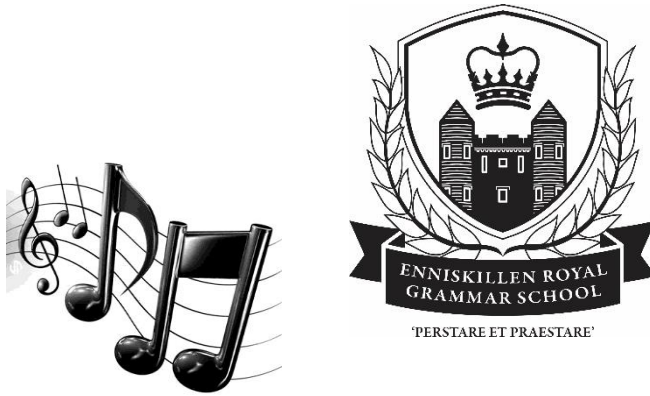


Enniskillen Royal Grammar School



Music Department

AS/A2

2020-21

Enniskillen Royal Grammar School

Welcome to the Music Department



Music Department Staff:

Mrs A Bloomfield – Music Curriculum Leader
Mrs S Dolan

Peripatetic Staff (EA Western Region):

Brass – Mr S Magee
Strings (upper) – Mrs R Dolan & Miss H Foy
Strings (lower) – Mrs D Liggett, Cello & Mr M McGinty, Double-Bass
Woodwind – Mr C Wright

Private tutors:

Drum Kit – Mr Marti Jones
Guitar – Mr Chris Gilroy
Piano – Miss Denise Wilkinson

Lessons will, as far as possible be scheduled when pupils have non-class periods to avoid any interruption with other A-level study. Pupils will have the opportunity to participate in various ensembles such as brass or woodwind groups in school in addition to WELB Music groups eg Fermanagh Intermediate Wind Band, Intermediate Youth Orchestra or the Senior Youth Orchestra (by audition). Pupils are also strongly encouraged to participate in these groups as well as in Senior Choir. This ensemble work provides a positive forum for group music-making and a chance to hone performance skills in a social, team environment.

In addition to individual lesson time, A level pupils may access time in the Music Dept each week to develop **Aural Perception skills** – working independently. This work will consolidate learning and understanding of Music across appropriate historical periods. It will also provide extra opportunity to develop aural skills by working on general and more focused listening work, practice questions and papers etc as the year progresses.

Music for AS & A2 – taken with CCEA (Northern Ireland)

The course comprises the 3 main areas as covered at GCSE level:

- Performing
- Composing
- Responding to Music (Listening and Appraising)

CCEA Specification

These areas are examined across **3 UNITS** at AS (with a similar format at A2)

Unit 1	Performing	(32.5%)
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Solo Performance (5-7 minutes)

It is ideal to be performing at **Grade 6 + level** to achieve top mark band performance in this unit

Viva Voce

Unit 2	Composing	(32.5%)
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Candidates will complete one piece of composition

(duration 1.5-2.5 minutes)

Written Commentary (max 1000) to be submitted along with composition

Unit 3	Responding to Music	(35%)
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Paper 1 - *Aural Perception* (1 hour) – set works and unfamiliar pieces will be included

Paper 2 - *Set work analysis/unfamiliar score analysis and extended written answers on set works* (2 hours)

Set Works – all 3 Areas of Study are Compulsory

Area of Study 1 – Music for Orchestra 1700-1900

There is a focus on large scale orchestral works throughout the Baroque, Classical and Romantic eras:

Vivaldi: *Concerto in G for Two Mandolins, 1st and 2nd movements*

Mozart: *Symphony No 39 in Eb (K543), 1st movement*

Beethoven: *Eroica Symphony, No 3, Op 55 in Eb, 4th movement*

Brahms: *Violin Concerto in D, Op 77, 3rd movement*

Area of Study 2 – Sacred Vocal Music (Anthems)

There is focus on Sacred Vocal Anthems from Renaissance through to 20th century styles:

Gibbons: This is the Record of John

Handel: Zadok the Priest

Mendelssohn: Hear my Prayer

Rutter: A Clare Benediction and For the Beauty of the Earth

Area of Study 3 – Secular Vocal Music (Musicals)

Here the focus is on the development of the musical from 1900 to the present day:

Kern: Ol' Man River from Showboat

Rodgers & Hammerstein: Soliloquy from Carousel

Bernstein: Tonight (Quintet) from West Side Story

Schonberg and Boubil: One Day More from Les Miserables

General history and aural perception skills will be taught to enhance study of Music from these genres and historical eras.

Set works will be examined through:

Aural Perception Questions - Area of Study 1, 2 & 3

Detailed Written Score Analysis - Area of Study 1

Extended Writing – Area of Study 2 & 3

Why study A-Level Music at Enniskillen Royal Grammar School?

- Music works as a suitable option along with either Arts or Science subjects and may successfully be timetabled with a broad range of other subject options. Over the past years, a number of pupils have availed of AS/A2 Music through Fermanagh Learning Community at ERGS. Pupils have had the option to study at ERGS to complete AS Music within the context of studying other AS levels at their base school. Equally pupils from ERGS have been able to avail of Music within their base school.
- At ERGS we have had extensive refurbishment to the Music Department (CC) which will provide excellent classroom facilities, and better ensemble spaces. We also have use of the Sibelius 6 and Logic Pro X packages for Composition Coursework. Logic Pro X and Sibelius are both available to pupils.
- Our A2 Music level success at Grade A* - C in Summer 2017 was 100%.

In the past number of years (considering ERGS & both legacy schools) we have had pupils who have gone on to study Music specific degree courses:

Music

Music Technology

Music with Disability Studies (potentially leading to Music Therapy)

Performing Arts

Primary Teaching with Music as a main subject

Additionally, we have many pupils who have chosen Music as an option and gone on to study degrees in a range of subjects as well as other career paths such as:

Dentistry

Engineering

Law

Medicine

Nursing

Optometry

Pharmacy

Social Work

Teaching

Extra-Curricular Music Activities (in pre-Covid times)

We have a range of opportunities for pupils in Extra-Curricular Music at Enniskillen Royal Grammar School. We strongly believe that extra-curricular Music activities and events provide a wide range of opportunities for pupils, which enriches their experiences within school life. Extra-Curricular Music both enhances opportunities for pupils and helps to provide opportunities for new friendships formed through a love of Music and taking pleasure in performing. This is also a way for us to develop links with our whole school community and into our local community as well as further afield. We have a range of Extra-Curricular activities:

- **Pupils in Years 11-14 may join the Senior Choir.** The choir is usually arranged as SATB and performs most notably at Christmas in addition to other events throughout the year eg Choral Competition at Fermanagh Feis.
- **Instrumentalists may play in Woodwind, Brass or String Ensembles** as appropriate – both through school and the EA Music Service. Pupils will then perform twice each year in Music Service concerts eg at St Michael's College or at the Ardhoven Theatre.
- **Brass Band** meets each week and all brass players are welcome to attend. The band is of a very high standard and has been the Northern Ireland Champion School band since the formation of the new school.
- **School Orchestra** is a feature for the Carol Service each year and features all Strings and Woodwind players of approx Grade 3 level upwards from Year 9-14. This provides a wonderful opportunity to get to know instrumentalists from throughout school and for more developed players to support younger musicians. A number of Senior Brass players (from the Brass Band) usually combine within the orchestra for a feature piece in addition to both Orchestra and Brass Band used to accompany and lead the Congregational Carol Singing.

Qualities and Skills Developed through Music Study

Musicians will develop skills in:

- Being a leader
 - Communication
 - Creativity
 - Good Time Management
 - Independent Learning
 - Perseverance
 - Problem Solving
 - Recognising their role in a team
 - Reliability
 - Self-Confidence
 - Self-Discipline
 - Working with Others
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- Music is a challenging and engaging subject. It has been shown by studies that the study of Music may help develop reading and verbal skills as well as improve mathematical reasoning. Being a musician may also make learning another language easier.
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- Music is creative and fun!

NB - A2 Music follows a similar format to AS Music with 3 units in Performing, Composing and Responding to Music. The areas of study are complimentary to and in many ways extensions of AS Music topics. Performance and Compositions presented are expected to be of a higher standard, eg performers would be aiming to be at Grade 7 standard for the A2 practical examination. Music may be successfully completed at AS level, or indeed is an appropriate choice for many pupils working on to A2 level.

