

Rationale for GCSE Music Teacher Assessments 2021

This year students will receive grades awarded and determined by teachers, with students only assessed on what they have been taught and based on the standard at which they are performing.

Fairness and flexibility are at the heart of this plan. Teachers have been asked to draw on a range of evidence when determining grades, including the optional use of questions provided by exam boards, as well as mock exams, coursework, or other work completed as part of a student's course, such as essays or in-class tests.

The process for awarding a Teacher Assessment Grade (TAG) for GCSE Music at KNGS:

Music students in Year 11 all over the country have been severely affected since March 2020 by the Covid pandemic and as a result Music Departments all over the country have had to think carefully about how to award a GCSE grade that is deserving of the students' work and takes into account the content covered.

Here at KNGS 75% of the course content for the final examination was covered by all students either in school or during the lockdown periods. Performance preparation also continued for the most part unhindered due to online lessons being set up and starting after Easter in 2020. Composition did suffer as it was difficult for feedback to be given in a practical way over an online medium. This is reflected in the weighting of the GCSE music grade.

TAG Grades 2021

- TAG grade will cover each element of the course (performance, composition and final exam) as advised by the exam board.
- The range of evidence used ensures that all Assessment Objectives are covered.

The weighting will be as follows:

- **Performance 35%** - This will be a solo performance of a piece, either instrument or voice. It will be marked by the music teacher in line with the marking criteria specified by the exam board.
- **Composition 25%** - One coursework composition will be marked by the music teacher in line with marking criteria specified by the exam board.
- **10% of the final grade** will be taken from work done in the period September 2021- December 2021 when listening questions on the exam topic (Rhythms of the World) were completed in lesson time.
- **Formal Assessment 30%** - this will take place on Tuesday 20th May.

It will be 1 hour 30 minutes long and contain questions on the following topics:

- Rock Anthems from 1970s and 1980s
- The Classical Concerto
- Eastern Mediterranean music
- The Baroque Concerto
- Calypso music
- Solo Artists – 1990s to present day

Tuesday 20th May will also be the deadline for final submission of any composition and performance coursework that students wish to be considered for the composition and performance areas of the course.