



OLD BUCKENHAM  
HIGH SCHOOL

*Be the best we can be*

# OBHS KS4 Subject information

(Optional subject)

Title of course:  
GCSE Music

Head of faculty: Mr Peter Jay



# Course Overview

## Why study .....

*Be the best we can be*

In the future, Creativity is going to be one of the most important and in-demand skills at work. Business leaders regularly state creativity as the most important workplace skill to help their businesses survive and grow.

This means that the study of creative subjects, like Music, is becoming even more important and relevant to young people to give you the chance to succeed – whatever your ambitions.

While Music is an academic subject in it's own right, studies have shown that music benefits learning by activating all areas of the brain. GCSE music involves written, analytical, practical and social/personal skills. Music students develop good communication skills, team work and self management.

Music is also good for your mental and physical wellbeing.

**Do you sing, play an instrument or write music?** If you don't currently play or sing but enjoy music that's ok - **you can start now.** Your performance assessment is in year 11! (We advise that you have lessons and play/sing regularly at school or at home)

**Have you enjoyed working on BandLab?** You can complete your GCSE Composing coursework using it, or other music software.

Don't worry if you can't read music, while it is useful to be able to, you will learn on the course.



# Course Overview

*Be the best we can be*

Examination and assessment: Examination board: EDUQAS

Component	What you will complete	Percentage of GCSE	Internal/External
Component 1: <b>Performing</b>	A minimum of two pieces, lasting a total of 4-6 minutes, recorded in the year of assessment (Year 11).	30%	Internally assessed
Component 2: <b>Composing</b>	Two pieces: One in response to a brief set by the exam board, in Year 11. One free composition – Any style you want to write in.	30%	Internally assessed
Component 3: <b>Appraising</b>	Externally assessed listening examination with questions about music and genres studied throughout the course.	40%	External written exam 1 hour 15minutes



# Course Overview

*Be the best we can be*

## Examination and assessment: Examination board: EDUQAS

- Regular listening tests to check understanding and the development of revision and retrieval skills
- Regular exam question practice to apply knowledge and understanding to meet the demands of the exam questions
- Regular gap analysis and DIRT tasks
- Year 10 performance assessment
- Year 11 mock exam