National 5 Music (Course Code: C850 75)

SCQF Level 5 (24 Credit Points)

Why study Music?

Music gives you the opportunity to use your imagination and express yourself in a creative and practical way. It helps you to develop important skills such as: playing a musical instrument, communication, creative thinking, using your voice, composing and arranging music. You can develop and consolidate your skills in performing and creating music, and develop your creativity and confidence as you explore and develop your own creative ideas and music.

The skills you learn on this course not only makes a valuable contribution to your general education and personal development but also allows you to develop the skills and knowledge required to proceed to further study and/or follow a career in music.

Career Pathways

To see what career areas this subject could lead to and the routes to get there, download and view these career pathways:

Performing Arts

What do I need to get in?

Entry is at the discretion of the school or college but you would normally have achieved:

- **National 4 Music**

What will I study?

Music is a practical, hands-on subject that develops your creativity and imagination, and your musical skills. You will have the opportunity to perform a variety of music in solo and/or group settings using your voice or your chosen instrument(s).

You will also develop your skills in composing, arranging and improvising music, and learn about the social and cultural factors that influence music.

You will:

- experiment with and use music concepts in creative ways, within a range of compositional methods, as you compose original music and self-reflect on your creative choices.
- through listening, develop knowledge and understanding of a variety of music styles, level-specific concepts, signs and symbols used in music notation
- develop your performing skills on two selected instruments, or on one selected instrument and voice through regular practice and self-reflection.

How will I be assessed?

Course Assessment

The course assessment has **four** components **totalling 130 marks**:

- Component 1: question paper – worth 40 marks (scaled to 35 marks towards final total)
- Component 2: assignment – worth 30 marks (scaled to 15)
- Component 3: performance - instrument 1 – worth 30 marks (scaled to 25)
- Component 4: performance - instrument 2 – worth 30 marks (scaled 25).

For the performance component, you will perform a programme of music that is set by your school or college, either using two selected instruments or one selected instrument and voice. This will be assessed by a visiting SQA assessor.

For the assignment component (which has 2 parts, composing and reviewing the process) you will be asked to compose one piece of music and review the composing process.

The question paper will be set and marked externally by the SQA.

The grade awarded is based on the total marks achieved across all course assessment components.

The course assessment is graded A-D.

Study Materials

- SQA Past Papers Music National 5
- SQA Specimen Paper Music National 5
- SQA Understanding Standards Music
- BBC Bitesize National 5 Music

What can I go on to next?

If you complete the course successfully, it may lead to:

- **Higher Music**

Further study, training or employment in:

- Music
- Performing Arts