Higher Music (Course Code: C850 76)

SCQF Level 6 (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 be expected to have achieved:

- **National 5 Music**

What will I study?

The course combines practical learning and understanding of music. You will draw upon your understanding of music styles and concepts when performing and creating 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, you will develop knowledge and understanding of a variety of music styles, level-specific concepts, signs and symbols used in music notation. You will also 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?

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

- Component 1: question paper – worth 40 marks (scaled to 35 towards the overall mark total)
- Component 2: assignment – worth 30 marks (scaled to 15)
- Component 2: performance (instrument 1) – worth 30 marks (scaled to 25)

- Component 3: performance (instrument 2) – worth 30 marks (scaled to 25).

For the assignment component, you will explore and develop musical ideas to create music. It has two parts: composing one piece of music (20 marks), and reviewing the composing process (10 marks).

For the performance component you will be required to perform either solo or in a group setting, and perform a minimum of 2 contrasting pieces on each of your 2 selected instruments, or instrument and voice.

The performance component will be assessed by an SQA visiting assessor.

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

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

The course assessment is graded A-D.

Study Materials

- SQA Past Papers Music Higher
- SQA Specimen Paper Music Higher
- SQA Understanding Standards Music
- BBC Bitesize Music Higher

What can I go on to next?

Successful completion of this course may lead to:

- **Advanced Higher Music**

Further study, training or employment in:

- Music
- Performing Arts