



# Course Choice Information - Music Higher

## Course Information & Content

Music is a mostly practical course focusing on performing, composing and listening. These three elements form the basis of the final exam and assessments.

The course requires that pupils perform on two instruments to an equal standard for 12 minutes at Higher. The split of the programme is flexible however a minimum of two pieces must be played on each instrument.

Performing forms, the main part of the exam and has the highest weighting with 50% of the marks coming from this element.

Listening is ongoing throughout the course and learning about different genres and features of music as well as musical literacy is an important part of N5 and H music. All concepts as well as examples of past papers are available on the SQA website. This element is worth 35%.

Composition focuses on the building of creative skills and requires a composition of no less than a minute to be written as well as the appropriate documentation to support this element. The composition and associated paperwork are worth 15% of the overall mark.

## Assessment

- Performing – takes place from mid-Feb to mid-March.
- Composition – Dept deadline is Christmas with submission to SQA prior to the Easter break.
- Listening – Assessed by examination as part of the main exam diet.

## Homework

Practice on both instruments should be ongoing throughout the course and whilst not set on a weekly basis is an expectation of a pupil taking music. This should be at least 15/30 minutes an evening or lunchtime if a pupil has no access to a musical instrument at home.

In addition more formal listening homework is set e.g. pupils would also be expected to use [www.educationscotland.gov.uk/ngmusic/index.asp](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/ngmusic/index.asp) to develop their understanding of the musical concepts associated with the course.

## Progression

H leads to AH which can lead to HNC, HND or Degree options at University

Music is also a desirable qualification for several other degree courses

NPA music performing is a senior phase course that is completely practical

## Career Options

Try this website as a starting point for finding out more information on a variety of music-based careers:

<https://careersinmusic.co.uk/>

Private music teacher |music therapist |secondary school teacher |television production assistant

|programme researcher |arts administrator |editorial assistant |marketing assistant

[More Information - SQA](#)

