

# GCSE 2009

Comparison of boards

# 'Features and Benefits' (Edexcel)

- ◆ Easy to deliver market leading specification with the emphasis firmly on performance
- ◆ A broader range of study areas and options for students to perform on any instrument or use music technology, broadening the appeal of the course
- ◆ The 3 units of performing, composing, listening and appraising are stand alone so poor performance in one unit won't heavily penalise the final mark.
- ◆ Clearer assessment and marking grids make it easier to make assessment decisions
- ◆ Clearer structure and explicit about content so you know what to teach

# AQA

- ◆ New, broader content with completely new areas of study that are appealing and reflect developments in 21<sup>st</sup> century music whilst retaining essential subject content
- ◆ A practical approach with greater weighting given to performance
- ◆ More choice in performing with options including rapping, turntablism and music tech. This allows a wide range of students to demonstrate their full ability with maximum flexibility. Your students can also receive credit for playing in bands, orchestras or groups of any size.

# AQA

- ◆ A variety of options in the composing component allows you and your students to choose from a wide range of genres to cater for all interests and abilities
- ◆ More manageable assessment with controlled assessment replacing coursework in composing/performing
- ◆ An accessible approach to the formal listening skills and there is no requirement to account for differences between score and recording in the composing and appraising music component
- ◆ Clear structure to the units so they're easy to understand and straightforward to teach

# OCR

- ◆ Improvements in 3 key areas:
  - updated and relevant content
  - a focus on developing students' personal, learning and thinking skills
  - flexible assessment, so teachers can choose the best learning approach for the job

# GCSE 2009

Assessment units...

# Edexcel

- ◆ Unit 1: Performing Music 30%
  - One solo and one ensemble
- ◆ Unit 2: Composing Music 30%
  - 2 compositions
- ◆ Unit 3: Listening and Appraising 40%
  - 1 hr 30mins

# AQA

- ◆ Unit 1: Listening to and appraising music 20%
  - 1 hour
- ◆ Unit 2: Composing and appraising music 20%
  - 1 composition + written appraisal
- ◆ Unit 3: Performing music 40%
  - 1 solo and 1 ensemble
- ◆ Unit 4: Composing music 20%
  - 1 composition

# OCR

- ◆ Unit 1: Integrated tasks 30%
  - Solo performance, 1 composition & commentary
- ◆ Unit 2: Practical portfolio 30%
  - Group performance, 1 composition, log & commentary
- ◆ Unit 3: Creative task 15%
  - 45 mins prep
- ◆ Unit 4: Listening test 25%
  - 1 hr 30 mins

# WJEC

- ◆ Unit 1: Performing music 30%
  - 1 solo, 1 ensemble (Feb/Mar)
- ◆ Unit 2: Composing music 30%
  - 2 compositions (Apr/May)
- ◆ Unit 3: Appraising music 40%
  - 1 hr 30 mins

# GCSE 2009

Areas of Study...

# Edexcel

- ◆ AoS 1: Western Classical Tradition, 1600-1899
- ◆ AoS 2: Music in the 20<sup>th</sup> century
- ◆ AoS 3: Popular Music in Context
- ◆ AoS 4: World Music

– Each AoS has 3 set works...

# Edexcel

- ◆ AoS 1: Western Classical Tradition, 1600-1899
  - Handel: Chorus – “and the glory of the Lord” from Messiah
  - Mozart: Symphony No. 40 in G minor, 1<sup>st</sup> movement
  - Chopin: Prelude No 15 in Db major, op.28

# Edexcel

- ◆ AoS 2: Music in the 20<sup>th</sup> century
  - Bernstein: “Something’s Coming” from West Side Story
  - Arnold Schoenberg: Peripatie
  - Steve Reich: Electric Counterpoint, 3<sup>rd</sup> movement (fast)

# Edexcel

- ◆ AoS 3: Popular Music in Context
  - Miles Davis: All Blues
  - Moby: Why Does My Heart Feel So Bad
  - Jeff Buckley: Grace

# Edexcel

## ◆ AoS 4: World Music

- Capercaillie: Chuir M'Athair Mise Dhan Taigh Charraideach (Skye Waulking Song)
- Various: Indian Music – Rag Desh
- Koko: African Music - Yiri

# AQA

- ◆ AoS 1: Rhythm & Metre
- ◆ AoS 2: Harmony & Tonality
- ◆ AoS 3: Texture & Melody
- ◆ AoS 4: Timbre & Dynamics
- ◆ AoS 5: Structure & Form

These are studied through the strands:

- a) Western Classical Tradition
- b) Popular Music of 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> centuries
- c) World Music

# OCR

- ◆ AoS 1: My Music (spotlight on my instrument)
- ◆ AoS 2: Shared Music (musical relationships and roles)
- ◆ AoS 3: Dance Music
- ◆ AoS 4: Descriptive Music

# WJEC

- ◆ AoS 1: Music In Wales
  - Welsh songs; Welsh instrumental music; Celtic connections
- ◆ AoS 2: Music for Stage and Screen
  - Opera; Ballet; Musicals; Film & TV
- ◆ AoS 3: Music Evolution
- ◆ AoS 4: Musical Forms and Devices
  - Western Classical Tradition; Popular Music

# Composing in more detail...

- ◆ Edexcel: unit 2
  - 2 compositions, totalling 2-4 mins
  - Controlled conditions: 10 hours per piece
  - Each from a different AoS

# Composing in more detail...

## ◆ AQA: unit 2

- 1 composition, explores 2 or more AoS though given strand
- Controlled conditions: 20 hours
- Appraisal of composition – 2 hours

## ◆ unit 4

- 1 composition, explores 2 or more AoS
- Controlled conditions: 25 hours

# Composing in more detail...

- ◆ OCR: unit 1
  - Performance and 1 composition, with commentary, related to AoS 1
  - Controlled conditions: 20 hours
  
- ◆ unit 2
  - Group performance and 1 composition, related to AoS 2, 3 or 4
  - Log and commentary
  - Controlled conditions: 20 hours

# Composing in more detail...

- ◆ WJEC: unit 2
  - 2 compositions, totalling 5 mins
  - Different AoS
  - Composition log
  - Feedback control 3 – 5 times over 16 – 20 weeks