

# YOUR STEP- BY-STEP GUIDE TO SWITCHING TO EDUQAS

GCSE MUSIC



# GCSE MUSIC WITH EDUQAS

## WHY CHOOSE US?

- Interesting areas of study include Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music and Popular Music
- Two accessible set works, one short classical piece and one popular song. The analysis of these is within the capability of GCSE students, and can be enhanced by practical classroom activities including performing.
- For performing, the standard level of difficulty is Grade 3. Candidates do not have to perform a solo if they do not wish to, so ensemble skills learnt in class performances at Key Stage 3 can be developed.
- Composition is assessed through two pieces: one written in response to a chosen brief, and one free piece which can be in any style, allowing candidates to demonstrate and develop their personal specialisms.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Performing		30%
A minimum of two pieces, lasting a total of 4 minutes, recorded in the year of assessment: One piece must be an ensemble lasting at least one minute One piece linked to an Area of Study Grade 3 is standard level	Teacher assessed Submission of marks and moderation sample by 5th May via online system	
Component 2: Composing		30%
Two pieces: One in response to a brief set by WJEC One free composition	Teacher assessed Submission of marks and moderation sample by 5th May via online system	
Component 3: Appraising		40%
Listening examination: 8 questions, 2 on each area of study: AoS 1 Musical Forms and Devices (including a set work) AoS 2 Music for Ensemble AoS 3 Film Music AoS 4 Popular Music (including a set work)	Externally assessed examination	

# MAKE THE SWITCH TO A BOARD THAT WILL SUPPORT YOU

Switching to Eduqas could be the best move you make.

You'll gain access to an unbeatable range of free teaching resources, and our team of subject specialists are on hand to give you all the help and advice you need.

Whether you're with AQA, OCR or Pearson (Edexcel), you can rest assured that switching to Eduqas is straightforward. Simply follow this guide, compare our specifications, and make the switch!

## MAKING THE SWITCH

Switching to Eduqas is simple, just follow these quick and easy steps:

1. Follow our switcher guide for your subject.
2. Register your interest at [www.eduqas.co.uk/switch](http://www.eduqas.co.uk/switch) and receive a printed copy of your chosen specification(s).
3. Visit your qualification page at [www.eduqas.co.uk/qualification](http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualification), to access the materials you need to begin teaching our specifications.
4. Visit our Digital Resources Website ([resources.eduqas.co.uk](http://resources.eduqas.co.uk)), for free resources that can be used as classroom aids and as revision tools.
5. Contact our subject specialists for subject specific queries, practical advice and guidance.
6. Your Exams Officer will need to register your centre, if your centre is not already registered with us.
7. Once registered, your Exams Officer will be able to provide you with access to our Secure Website ([www.wjecservices.co.uk](http://www.wjecservices.co.uk)), which hosts a wealth of resources that are not available elsewhere.

## WE'RE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU

If you have a question, simply contact our Music team who will offer friendly advice and guidance:



**Rachel Edwards**  
Subject Officer - Music  
music@eduqas.co.uk  
029 2240 4300



**Catrin Budd**  
Subject Support Officer - Music  
music@eduqas.co.uk  
029 2240 4300





# HELPING YOU MAKE THE SWITCH - COMPARING SET WORKS BETWEEN SPECIFICATIONS

Eduqas GCSE	Musical forms and devices (Western Classical Tradition 1650-1910)	J S Bach: <i>Badinerie from Suite no 2 in B minor</i>	
	Music for ensemble	Suggested genres, no set works	
	Film music	Suggested styles, no set works	
	Popular music	Toto: <i>Africa</i> (released 1982)	
AQA GCSE	Western Classical Tradition 1650-1910	Mozart: <i>Clarinet concerto in A, K622, movt. 3</i>	
	Popular Music	Little Shop of Horrors 1982 off - Broadway version - the following three tracks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Prologue/Little Shop of Horrors (overture)</i></li> <li>• <i>Musnik and Son</i></li> <li>• <i>Feed Me</i></li> </ul>	
	Traditional Music	Paul Simon Graceland album - the following three tracks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Graceland</i></li> <li>• <i>Diamonds on the Soles of her Shoes</i></li> <li>• <i>You can call me Al</i></li> </ul>	
	Western Classical Tradition since 1910	The orchestral music of Copland; British music of Arnold, Britten, Maxwell-Davies and Tavener; The orchestral music of Zoltán Kodály and Béla Bartók. Minimalist music of John Adams, Steve Reich and Terry Riley. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zoltán Kodály : <i>Battle and Defeat of Napoleon and Intermezzo</i> from Háry János.</li> </ul>	
OCR GCSE	My instrument	Suggested repertoire, no set works. A note in the specification also states: “ <i>teachers should feel free to look at a variety of composers and styles of their choice to cover the required content</i> ”.	
	The Concerto through time		
	Rhythms of the world		
	Film music		
	Conventions of pop		
Edexcel	Instrumental music 1700-1820	J S Bach: 3rd Movement from <i>Brandenburg Concerto no. 5 in D major</i>	L van Beethoven: 1st Movement from Piano Sonata no. 8 in C minor ‘ <i>Pathétique</i> ’
	Vocal music	H Purcell: <i>Music for a While</i>	Queen: <i>Killer Queen</i> (from the album <i>Sheer Heart Attack</i> )
	Music for stage and screen	S Schwartz: <i>Defying Gravity</i> (from the album of the cast recording of <i>Wicked</i> )	J Williams: <i>Main title/rebel blockade runner</i> (from the soundtrack to <i>Star Wars Episode IV: ANew Hope</i> )
	Fusions	Afro Celt Sound System: <i>Release</i> (from the album <i>Volume 2: Release</i> )	Esperanza Spalding: <i>Samba Em Preludio</i> (from the album <i>Esperanza</i> )

\* Set works are subject to periodic review, but any changes will be notified in advance to allow appropriate teaching time.

Component 1 Performing	Composing 2 Composing	Component 3 Appraising
<b>Eduqas GCSE</b>		
Grade 3 standard level No compulsory solo Each piece can be recorded on separate occasions Online submission	2 compositions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 in response to a brief</li> <li>• 1 free composition</li> </ul> Online submission Compositions can be completed with or without supervision but must be monitored at least three times.	Listening exam Only 2 set works Questions assess understanding of the elements of music, use of musical language and its context, and are based on what the learner can hear in the music, rather than what they have memorised. The 2 set works will always feature, giving candidates reassurance.
<b>AQA GCSE</b>		
To score full marks in performing a piece must be at least Grade 5 standard  Must include 1 solo and 1 ensemble	2 compositions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 in response to a brief</li> <li>• 1 free composition</li> </ul> Teacher must authenticate the work.	Listening exam 9 set works- some choice 8 compulsory questions based on unfamiliar pieces 2 sets of linked questions based on set works.
<b>OCR GCSE</b>		
Levels of difficulty not explicitly linked to grades. Descriptors given of top and bottom levels  No compulsory solo	2 compositions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 in response to a brief</li> <li>• 1 free composition</li> </ul> Compositions must be completed under controlled conditions	Listening exam No set works, but suggested repertoire for study. Examination based around musical elements, context and language.
<b>Edexcel GCSE</b>		
Grade 4 standard level Must include 1 solo and 1 ensemble	2 compositions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 in response to a brief</li> <li>• 1 free composition</li> </ul> Compositions must be completed under controlled conditions Timing penalties are applied to composition submissions below 3 minutes	Listening exam 8 set works plus 16 additional pieces set for wider listening 6 questions based on set works 1 dictation question 1 skeleton score question 1 longer comparison question based on a set work and an unfamiliar piece

Whichever board you are swapping from, Performing and Composing will be very similar. There are also parts of the Appraising Component which will be transferable in terms of the content as well as the skills of analysis and aural discrimination. Three quarters of the Eduqas exam is based on unfamiliar listening, with questions focussing mostly on the elements of music, so any study of other set works will have set down a useful foundation for this.

If you are swapping from Edexcel, all study of set works will be relevant to the Eduqas specification:

- J S Bach: 3rd Movement from *Brandenburg Concerto no. 5 in D major*  
L van Beethoven: 1st Movement from Piano Sonata no. 8 in C minor '*Pathétique*'  
H Purcell: *Music for a While* (Links to AoS 1)
- S Schwartz: *Defying Gravity* (from the album of the cast recording of *Wicked*) (Links to AoS 2)
- J Williams: *Main title/rebel blockade runner* (from the soundtrack to *Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope*) (Links to AoS 3)
- Afro Celt Sound System: *Release* (from the album *Volume 2: Release*)  
Esperanza Spalding: *Samba Em Preludio* (from the album *Esperanza*)  
Queen: *Killer Queen* (from the album *Sheer Heart Attack*) (Links to AoS 4)

If you are swapping from OCR the work on the *Concerto through time* will support Eduqas AoS 1, and the study of *Film Music* and *Conventions of pop* have clear links to Eduqas AoS 3 and 4. The other music you have used in the classroom will also support general aural recognition of elements.

If you are swapping from AQA, the following set works will be relevant to Eduqas:

- Mozart: *Clarinet concerto in A, K622, movt. 3* (Links to AoS 1)
- *Little Shop of Horrors* 1982 off - Broadway version (Links to Musical theatre in AoS 2)
- Paul Simon *Graceland* album (Links to AoS 4)

# THE SUPPORT YOU NEED

## FREE TAILORED MUSIC DIGITAL RESOURCES

We've created a wealth of free digital resources to support our qualifications. They have been developed to enhance learning, stimulate classroom discussion, and encourage student engagement. Access our resources today at [resources.eduqas.co.uk](https://resources.eduqas.co.uk)

## REGIONAL SUPPORT TEAM

Whether you are a teacher, lecturer, exams officer or head of department, our Regional Support Team is on-hand to make sure you receive all the support and guidance you need.

We cover every part of England and can provide face-to-face and online advice at a time which is convenient to you.

## REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD CONTACT US

- All of our regional representatives are former teachers, and therefore understand exactly what kind of support you need to get the most out of your classroom experience.
- Support can be face-to-face or online and at a time and location which suits you.
- With their extensive knowledge of our qualifications, you'll get the insight you need to help you deliver our qualifications with confidence.
- You'll receive practical advice on the best resources for your subject including our extensive range of digital resources, Question Bank and Online Exam Review
- We also offer support for teachers new to a particular subject or thinking about joining us, in which we run through assessment structure, exam papers, and where to find various resources you will need for teaching.
- Support from our team - including visits - is FREE

## MEET THE TEAM

Get in contact today and discover how our team can support you and your students. To book a visit or to find out more, please visit our [Regional Support Team webpages](#).

WE'RE ON HAND TO SUPPORT YOU AND OFFER GUIDANCE ON OUR QUALIFICATIONS AND RESOURCES.



Hayley Sheard  
Hayley.Sheard@eduqas.co.uk



Dave Jones  
Davidr.Jones@eduqas.co.uk



Dave Evans  
David.Evans@eduqas.co.uk



Catherine Oldham  
Catherine.Oldham@eduqas.co.uk



Ant Fleming  
Anthony.Fleming@eduqas.co.uk

Eduqas  
245 Western Avenue  
Cardiff CF5 2YX  
029 2026 5465  
[info@eduqas.co.uk](mailto:info@eduqas.co.uk)

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