

A Level Music Summer Work

2026



Welcome!

We are so pleased you have chosen to study A Level Music at Wyke Sixth Form College. As you will be aware, this is an academically demanding course which will require a good level of musical literacy, a high standard of performance and an ability to grow as a composer throughout your two years.

The course is 40% written exam, 35% performance and 25% composition so there will be a lot of variety in your studies across your time at college.

For the Summer work, you will have **two** tasks to complete: a **written** task and a **composition** task.



Music Courses at Wyke

A-level Music (AQA)

- ✓ Single subject choice: 4 x lessons a week, and studied alongside 2 x other subjects
- ✓ 40% Appraisal, 35% Performance, 25% Composition
- ✓ Listening, Analysis and Evaluation, using scores and recordings to study set works and composers
- ✓ A broad range of music is studied
 - ✓ Western Classical Tradition
 - ✓ Music for Media
 - ✓ Music for Theatre
- ✓ 100% exam based
 - ✓ Appraising (2h30m written exam)
 - ✓ Performance (10m+ recital)
 - ✓ Composition (4m30s+ over 2 compositions)

BTEC Extended Certificate in Digital Music Production

- ✓ Single subject choice: 4 x lessons a week, and studied alongside 2 x other subjects
- ✓ Range of musical styles mainly modern popular and commercial based music, and music for media explored
- ✓ One third external assessment (DAW Production 15-hour exam)
- ✓ Two thirds internally assessed course work
- ✓ A broad range of music studied:
 - ✓ EDM
 - ✓ Rock
 - ✓ Film music (and more...!)



Music Enrichment at Wyke

Wyke SESH



Instrumental Lessons



Wyke Orchestra



Pre-Performance



Trips





Task 1: Written Task

For your Summer work, write 500 words about your favourite classical (including Baroque and Romantic), film or musical theatre composer.

Your writing should include:

- A short biography of the composer (around 100 words)
- Why they are your favourite composer (around 100 words)
- A case study on one of their pieces/songs with details about how **musical elements** are used (around 250 words) [see the next page for the musical elements we use!]
- A short conclusion (around 50 words)



Musical Elements

The musical elements we study in A Level Music are:

Melody

Harmony

Tonality

Sonority (Timbre)

Texture

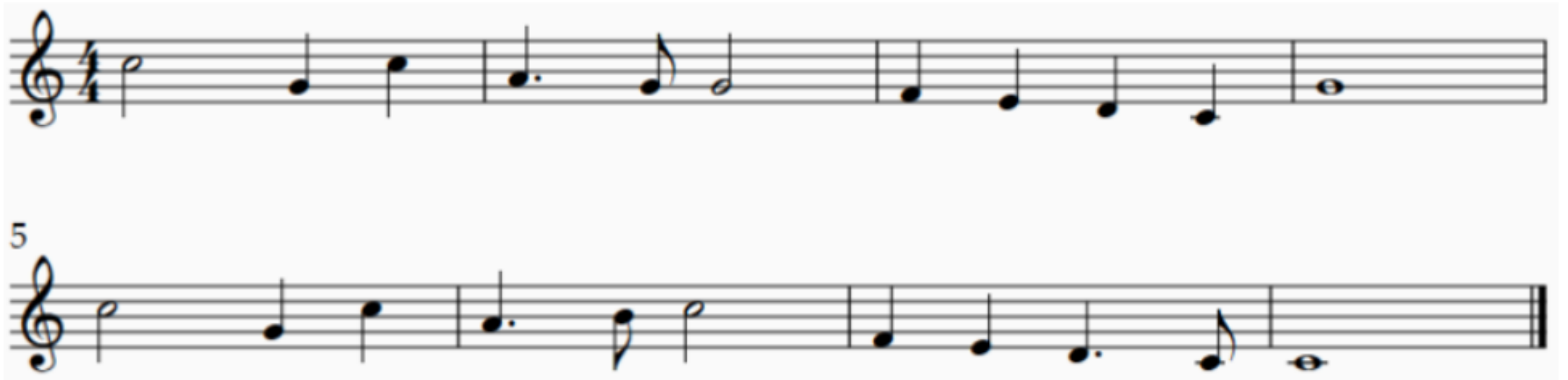
Structure

Dynamics & Articulation

Tempo, Metre & Rhythm

Task 2: Composition Task

Harmonise the following 8-bar melody using **conventional** harmonic structures. The key is either C major, or A minor. You can write a four-part harmony or a block chord accompaniment, but try to write a new chord for each note. As a challenge, try to be creative with your harmonisation whilst remaining conventional.





Additional Task

If you have been identified as requiring more work with music theory, you will also need to complete the theory pack given at Wyke Start.

Your enrolment on the course will be subject to an additional theory test based on this content at enrolment.

If you think the BTEC Digital Music Production course would be more suitable for you, please email sandy.clark@wyke.ac.uk