Music at CNS

Sixth Form

Gap task questions

Course overview

Exam Board: Edexcel

**Component 1:** Performing, 30% - 8 minutes (minimum) performance - Any instrument(s) - Any style - Solo/ensemble/improvising

**Component 2:** Composing, 30% - One 4 minute composition either based on a brief or a free composition - 2 completed harmony exercises in the style of a Bach Chorale

**Component 3:** Appraising, 40% - 2 hour exam - Based on set works, unfamiliar music, aural skills, essay writing - Set works are based on 6 areas of study: Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Music for Film, Popular Music and Jazz, Fusions, New Directions.

Course expectations:

* Students are required to be having instrumental lessons from a private teacher inside or outside of school to help prepare them for unit 1.
* Students will be set work to do outside of lessons in the form of practice, compositional exercises, essays, and harmony, research and revision/consolidation tasks, wider reading and listening.
* Students are expected to be involved in the music extra-curricular community at CNS.

Gap Tasks:

**Gap task 1** – Performance

Prepare one piece for performance baseline assessment. This will be used to provide you with feedback on your performance skills and be the first informal mark for this unit in your first year. The piece can be in any style, any length (though I advise you keep it under 6 minutes) with or without accompaniment. If you require an accompanist then please bring in a copy of your music in September.

**Gap task 2** – Composition

Compose a short study for your instrument. Compose a piece in a recognisable structure which explore the range and techniques of your instrument. The piece can be influenced by any style of music or genre. You will be required to perform your piece during the first few weeks. The recommended length is no longer than 2 minutes. You will receive feedback on the structure and inclusion of a range of techniques as well as the expression and style

If you have any questions about any of the gap tasks or about the course next year please email [c.howard@cns-school.org](mailto:c.howard@cns-school.org).

Good luck, see you in September!

Mrs C Howard

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