

25 May 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) component in GCSE Music.

I am writing to share with you the information we have given to the students this year regarding the deadlines for the GCSE Music coursework (NEA). As you may remember from the options booklet or curriculum page of the website, there are four pieces of work that are treated as NEAs:

- solo performance
- free composition
- group performance
- composition to a set brief

The deadline for the free composition is the end of this academic year. This means that no further curriculum time will be given to this piece of work. Students can however attend the lunchtime and after-school support sessions to continue work on their free composition. The after-school sessions are on Tuesdays from 3.45pm to 5pm. Students are also welcome to use the computer suite and practice rooms every lunchtime. Staff are happy to support, although as you know, they are often involved in clubs.

Next academic year, having had the experience of completing the free composition, students will have two terms to complete the remaining set brief composition and they will be given curriculum time to complete this. They can, of course, attend the lunchtime and after-school support sessions for this work too. We will inform you and the students when these will be, once next year's timetable is confirmed.

During term 3, we will complete final solo and ensemble performances and begin the process of revising the areas of study ahead of the PPEs. There will be opportunities to make final amendments, however this will have to be done during the lunchtime and after-school sessions.

All NEAs must be completed by Thursday 6 April 2023 at the very latest. This allows time for staff to check that the work meets the requirements of the exam board, to report marks to students and to allow time for any appeals. There can be no extension to this date.

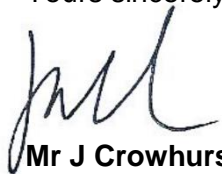
The requirements are as follows:

- A. Pieces 1 and 3 should last a minimum of 4 minutes, with piece 3 lasting at least 1 minute
- B. Pieces 2 and 4 should last a minimum of 3 minutes.

Please note, the exam board are very firm on the minimum requirements, meaning no marks can be awarded if these are not met.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Crowhurst', written in a cursive style.

Mr J Crowhurst
Head of Music