

Performing

1. How do I choose ensemble repertoire?

Look at the [ensemble flowchart](#). If you are still unsure, please email music@wjec.co.uk with a copy of the score.

2. Can we use the school band for an ensemble?

Yes, as long as the piece is suitable (see the [flowchart](#)) and there are no more than 8 performers.

3. What happens if a candidate does not do an ensemble?

They must be awarded zero for performance 1 on the mark sheet.

4. Do candidates have to do a solo?

No, they have to do an ensemble lasting at least one minute, and at least one other piece (solo, ensemble or a combination) to make up to the 4-minute minimum.

5. What happens if a candidate plays for under 4 minutes?

They will face a penalty deduction from their final mark. See the [specification](#) for further details.

6. What happens if they play for longer than the maximum time?

There is no penalty, but they have more opportunity to make mistakes.

7. Can they play pieces on more than one instrument?

Yes, there is no advantage or disadvantage to this.

8. Do all the recordings have to be done at the same time?

No, but they must all be done in the year of assessment (usually year 11.)

9. Can a performance be recorded outside school?

Yes, as long as the teacher who will be assessing the work is present.

10. Can I submit a reference recording instead of a score?

No. If your candidate has learnt a piece by ear, please create a score or lead sheet. TAB is also acceptable.

11. My candidate improvises or is performing from a tradition which does not notate music. How do I provide a score?

Make a lead sheet which shows the details (including performance directions) of what will be performed – enough for you and a moderator to be able to judge the accuracy. In the case of improvisation give details of the stimulus and the expected structure and for accuracy you are assessing whether the improvisation is “accurate to the style.”

12. My candidate deliberately plays/sings differently from what is on the score. Do I take off marks for accuracy?

Mark on the score where things have been changed. Either correct the notation or over a bar or so write details of the change e.g. “melodic variation here.” You can also add or change dynamics, add, or remove repeats, cut sections etc.

13. What is the level of difficulty.....?

If it is on any accredited graduate examination syllabus, we will take it up on that difficulty, provided it is a specific arrangement. Making cuts can affect the level of difficulty.

Grade 3 = Standard Level Grade 4 + = Harder Grade 2 or less = Easier than Standard Level

Look at the descriptors in the [specification](#). If you are unable to reach a decision, please send a copy of the score (not a recording) in an email to music@wjec.co.uk.

14. How does sequential performance work?

See this [help sheet](#)

15. Am I allowed to submit coursework by post?

No