

WJEC MUSIC | APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER

A LEVEL UPDATES

Many thanks to all centres who have welcomed visiting examiners to assess their candidates' performances. The feedback from examiners has been really positive, with the usual reports of exceptional young musicians in your schools. The examiners have all thoroughly enjoyed these visits, and it is important to recognise the hard work of both students and teachers to achieve this - particularly in the difficult times in which we find ourselves as we try to learn to live with Covid. At the time of writing there are still a few visits to be completed, and there have been a small number of necessary contingency arrangements but the patience of teachers in these situations has been appreciated.

The next important date for GCE is the upload deadline for Composing work. All keycodes will be available from 20th April, and the deadline for uploading is **15th May**. There is guidance on the upload process on the [e-submissions](#) page.

Finally, the examination dates are as follows:

AS: 17th May

A Level: 14th June

GCSE UPDATES

We are now at the point of the year when for Year 11 the end is in sight! There are just two essential dates and deadlines you need to bear in mind:

5th May – deadline for uploading the work for the sampled candidates for both Performing and Composing. [All Performing and Composing sampled work must be uploaded to our online platform. You can find instructions below.]

22nd June – GCSE Music exam (morning)

In addition, please ask your exams officer to check for two important circulars/e mail communications:

- One regarding declaring any candidates whose performances are under time
- One regarding candidates entitled to 25% extra time in the exam – there will be a special mp3 audio file available for GCSE but schools will need to register for access

WJEC GCSE MUSIC NEA PROCESSES FOR 2022.

Note that there is a requirement to give all candidates the chance to appeal their teacher assessed MARKS before you submit them, so you must factor in the time required for this, according to your own school policy. This applies to all subjects, and all exam boards.

More details on this via JCQ: [Instructions for Conduction Coursework](#) Section 13.5.

UNIT 1 PERFORMING

1. Review the requirements for 2022:
 - One or more pieces
 - Minimum total duration of 2:00
 - Programme note
2. Recordings must be made between September 2021 and May 2022.
3. Record every piece separately. No announcements are required.
4. For every performance you need a recording and a score/lead sheet. (Guide tracks or YouTube links are not acceptable as an alternative to a score.) Make sure you annotate anything which the candidate INTENDS to perform differently – before the performance is recorded. Also make sure the score has performance directions such as tempo marks and dynamics. You are allowed to add musically sensible repeats.
5. Assess every performance according to the criteria in Appendix A of the specification.
6. Apply any level of difficulty changes to the performances to get the final mark for each piece. (This is done on a per piece basis if they have played more than one piece.) Use the table in Appendix A.
7. Work out the total mark using the calculation as laid out on the 2022 mark sheet:

[Total number of marks awarded] divided by [The number of pieces performed] multiplied by 2. Then add on the mark for the Programme Note.

If they only perform 1 piece you effectively double the mark, then add the Programme Note.
8. Calculate the total duration of the performance. You cannot include introductions before the candidate starts, or sections where they have several bars rest. Put the total time onto the marksheet, and if it is below the minimum requirement (see above) then you must apply a penalty, using the 2022 penalty sheet.
9. Put the FINAL mark after any penalties onto the mark sheet.

10. As you go along, complete the candidate timing form with the details of everyone in your cohort.

11. File names need to be clear. If you include any special characters (this includes all punctuation) then the system won't accept it. Just use letters and numbers in the format:

Candidate name and number solo/ensemble performance number
audio/score/mark sheet

Eg. John Smith 12345 solo 1 audio
John Smith 12345 solo 1 score
John Smith 12345 mark sheet

12. **BY MAY 3RD AT THE LATEST:** When you have marked all candidates' work and resolved any appeals, input the marks via the secure website (see your exams officer.) When you press the submit button the screen will refresh and your sample will be identified.

13. After **two working days** your exams officer will be able to download a list of the upload codes for your sampled candidates. (See links below) Ask them to give you this electronically, so you can copy and paste.

14. Visit the upload page (see links below) to upload your sample. You simply put in the code for the candidate, then upload the work for them – see the link below for a how-to video. You have one set of codes for Unit 1, and another for Unit 2. Do not mix them up!

15. This is what you need to upload:

- 1 WJEC GCSE Music Performance Candidate Timings sheet – upload with the first candidate on your list.
- For each candidate:
 - mp3 files of piece(s) performed
 - scores of piece(s) performed
 - programme note
 - a completed AND SIGNED mark sheet

16. **The deadline for uploading the requested sample is midnight on 5th May.** Do not forget that it takes 2 working days from when you submit marks for the codes to be created.

17. WJEC reserves the right to request additional candidate work, so it should all be ready to upload, not just the sample. If extra work is requested this does not necessarily mean there is a problem – we also request everything from a random

selection of centres. The reason for this is because we have a duty to ensure that assessment is accurate and therefore fair to all candidates.

Useful links:

[WJEC GCSE Music Adaptations Summary](#)

[WJEC Unit 1 Mark Sheet for 2022](#)

[WJEC Unit 1 Penalties for 2022](#)

[WJEC GCSE Music Performance Candidate Timings](#) – complete this form and upload with the first candidate

[E-Submission Process – Centre Guide](#)

[E-Submission Process – Subject Guide Summer 2022](#)

[Internal Assessment Checklist](#)

[Exams officer log in to Surpass](#) – to get the keycodes

[Link to upload the work](#) – no log in required, just use the codes

[Video demonstration](#) of the upload process

UNIT 2 COMPOSING

1. Review the requirements for 2022:
 - One composition. This can either use a published brief or be a free composition
 - There are no timing penalties in Composing.
2. No announcements are required when recording. The audio can just be computer output or can be a live performance.
3. You need to submit a recording and a score/lead sheet for each candidate. Annotated screen shots are fine. There are exemplars on the secure website.
4. You must also submit a completed log document for each candidate – this is not optional.
5. Assess every composition according to the criteria in Appendix B of the specification.
6. Work out the total mark using the calculation as laid out on the 2022 mark sheet:
[Total number of marks awarded] multiplied by 2.
7. Put the FINAL total mark onto the mark sheet.

8. File names need to be clear. If you include any special characters (this includes all punctuation) then the system won't accept it. Just use letters and numbers in the format:

Candidate name and number composition audio/score/mark sheet

Eg. John Smith 12345 composition audio
John Smith 12345 composition score
John Smith 12345 composition log and mark sheet

You can separate the log from the mark sheet if you need to.

9. **BY MAY 3RD AT THE LATEST:** When you have marked all candidates' work and resolved any appeals, input the marks via the secure website (see your exams officer.) When you press the submit button the screen will refresh and your sample will be identified.
10. After **two working days** your exams officer will be able to download a list of the upload codes for your sampled candidates. (See links below) Ask them to give you this electronically, so you can copy and paste.
11. Visit the upload page (see links below) to upload your sample. You simply put in the code for the candidate, then upload the work for them – see the link below for a how-to video. You have one set of codes for Unit 1, and another for Unit 2. Do not mix them up!
12. This is what you need to upload for each candidate:
 - mp3 file of the composition
 - score / lead sheet / annotated screen shot as appropriate
 - completed AND SIGNED composition log and mark sheet
13. **The deadline for uploading the requested sample is midnight on 5th May.** Do not forget that it takes 2 working days from when you submit marks for the codes to be created.
14. WJEC reserves the right to request additional candidate work, so it should all be ready to upload, not just the sample. If extra work is requested this does not necessarily mean there is a problem – we also request everything from a random selection of centres. The reason for this is because we have a duty to ensure that assessment is accurate and therefore fair to all candidates.

Useful links:

[WJEC GCSE Music Adaptations Summary](#)

[WJEC GCSE Unit 2 Log And Mark Sheet 2022](#)

[E-Submission Process – Centre Guide](#)

[E-Submission Process – Subject Guide Summer 2022](#)

[Internal Assessment Checklist](#)

[Exams officer log in to Surpass](#) – to get the keycodes

[Link to upload the work](#) – no log in required, just use the codes

[Video demonstration](#) of the upload process