RUNSHAW COLLEGE

A Level 2027/2028

Music

100% Pass Rate

Prestigious Destinations

Partnered with Leeds College of Music

Free Instrumental Lessons

Ensembles including Jazz, Classical and Vocal



A Level **Music**

A Level study progresses naturally from GCSE Music, covering performing, composing and listening. The course allows students to develop a full range of musical skills across the three disciplines.

The A Level Music is divided into three components, each worth a different percentage of the overall grade:

- Performance (35%)
- Composition (25%)
- Listening and Appraising (40%)

For your performance component, you will work closely with our team of peripatetic tutors to develop a solo performance recital approximately 10 minutes in length. The composition component will allow you to develop two compositions (one to a brief and one free composition). In preparation for this, you will learn to compose counterpoint and chorale harmony for duets, quartets and jazz ensembles. Alongside these two components is the analysis and listening component, culminating in a written paper worth 40% of your course. You will study the Western Classical Tradition, including baroque solo concerto, classical opera and romantic piano music. In addition, you will explore the development of Jazz and Art Music post-1910.

Music students at Runshaw College achieve strong pass rates and destinations, and gain extensive experience in ensemble performance through our Music Academy. These ensembles are also open to non-music students. Currently, our ensembles include:

- Orchestra
- Choir
- Chamber Choir
- Jazz Ensemble
- Big Band

To access the course, you must achieve the minimum college entry requirements of 5 Grade 5's including Grade 5 in GCSE Music. If you have not studied GCSE Music, then you will need to have ABRSM Grade 5 Music Theory at Pass standard or above to be eligible for the course.

If you have not completed your Grade 5 Theory, you will be enrolled in a theory support programme to achieve it as soon as possible.

Progression & Links with Institutions
Runshaw runs annual workshops including masterclasses from the RNCM and Leeds Conservatoire. Our links with these institutions mean that our students are fully prepared for higher study. Consistently two-thirds of our music students go on to study music at HE, including at the RNCM, Leeds Conservatoire and other prestigious university courses such as Durham, Birmingham, Huddersfield and Salford.

Entry Requirements:
A minimum of 5x Grade 5s, including Music OR ABRSM Grade 5 Music Theory AND successful practical audition.

What's great about this course?

1. Music Academy
2. Special relationship with the RNCM and Leeds College of Music
3. Prestigious music HE destinations

Music A Level A5 2027-28 September 14 2026