

Circular S/IF/94/09

September 2009

To: The Principals of Post-primary Schools and Directors of Institutes of Further and Higher Education

For circulation to: The Head of the Music Department

GCE and GCSE Music

Congratulations to you and your candidates on the successful completion of another year of excellent achievement in GCSE and GCE Music. The 2009 Summer series was a very busy one and the standard of work received by CCEA is testament to all the hard work going on in centres across Northern Ireland.

The following important information will assist you in the delivery of both GCSE and GCE Music specifications.

Composition submissions

CCEA will no longer accept any composition that has been submitted for an award at another level. For example, a composition that has been submitted for assessment at GCSE may not be submitted at AS or A2. Work found to be submitted for assessment by a candidate at more than one level will receive a mark of zero for that work. However, the exception remains where a candidate may re-submit work for a re-sit, but should where possible improve the composition.

Music teacher's e-mail circular

If you are not already on the CCEA Music Teacher's circular mailing list and would like to be added, please email nmclarnon@ccea.org.uk with your name and centre number. You will receive emails alerting you of all CCEA Music subject developments, support and information updates. CCEA will not distribute your email to any third party.

News and Events

Continue to stay up-to-date with all CCEA Music subject developments by clicking the *News and Events* tab on the subject microsite.

GCSE Music

Performing component

Commencing from the Summer 2010 examination series, the Performing component will see the following changes:

- visiting examiners will no longer give an indication of marks on the day of the visit;
- centres will have an opportunity for individual remarks in the Performing component, in line with the availability of same at GCE upon issue of results in August.

All other aspects of the visit for Summer 2010 (the last summer series for the legacy specification), will remain as they have been.

New specification set works analyses

Set works analyses for the New GCSE Music specification, will be available for download from the music microsite (www.ccea.org.uk/music) from October 31. These will further support the New GCSE Music Scheme of Work. Both these documents will be found on the Music microsite - click on the 'GCSE Revised Music' tab, then click 'Support'.



New Specification - Controlled Assessment support events - January 2010

Invitations will be arriving in your centre for these events, or you can register your attendance at the event by visiting the 'News and Events' page on the Music microsite. These events will offer support for the delivery of components in controlled assessment for the New GCSE Music Specification.

New GCSE Music Set Works now available as an iMix on iTunes

An "iMix" of the Revised GCSE Music Set Works is now available for purchase as individual tracks (at £0.79 per track) on iTunes. CCEA does not insist you study these particular recordings. In fact for many of the set works (particularly orchestral works) there are a number of suitable recordings. However, these tracks will be the recordings that will be used on future live examinations.

You can access these iMix tracks via the Music News and Events page on the microsite. You need to have iTunes installed on your computer to download these tracks.

GCE Music

AS/A2 2009 Stimuli

The stimulus for the AS and A2 Sequenced Arrangement Task and A2 Core Composition Task can be downloaded from the Music microsite from September 30, 2009.

A2 Composition Exemplars go live!

A2 composition exemplars for Core and Option can now be downloaded from the CCEA Music microsite. These include a PDF of the completed Candidate Assessment Form and candidate commentaries as well as mp3 files of the relevant recordings. To access this support, visit the Music microsite, click on 'GCE Music', then click 'Support Materials'.

DJing/Performing on Decks

From Summer 2010, assessment in DJing will not be available in the New specification, AS and A2 Performing component.

New Specification - AS Exemplification of Examination Performance events

Invitations will be arriving in your centre shortly for these events, or you can register your attendance at the event by visiting the 'News and Events' page on the Music microsite. These events will exemplify grades 'A' and 'E' for all AS Level components from the Summer 2009 series.

Best wishes for a rewarding academic year.

Regards
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If you have any queries regarding the content of this circular please contact:

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