

NATIONALS IN A NUTSHELL

The National Parent Forum of Scotland Summary of Music National 4

MUSIC
EXPRESSIVE ARTS

NATIONAL
4

3

UNITS

PERFORMING SKILLS
COMPOSING SKILLS
UNDERSTANDING MUSIC

+

ADDED
VALUE
UNIT

ADDED VALUE UNIT: PERFORMANCE

What skills will my child develop?

- sufficiently accurate performing skills in solo and/or group settings on two selected instruments or on one instrument and voice
- the ability to create original music using straightforward compositional methods and music concepts when composing, arranging or improvising
- knowledge and understanding of the social and cultural factors influencing music
- knowledge and understanding of music and musical literacy by listening to music
- identifying level-specific annotated music signs, symbols, concepts and styles
- understanding the creative process and expressing him or herself through music
- critical and analytical listening skills and evaluation for improvement
- personal creativity and applying music concepts to personal practice

WHAT WILL MY CHILD EXPERIENCE DURING THE COURSE?

- Active and independent learning through self and peer evaluations
- A blend of classroom approaches including practical and experiential learning; using music technology such as audio recordings, computer music programmes
- Collaborative learning: with others in multi-instrument groups; shared listening experiences; whole class discussion and exploration; group improvisation; curricular links with the expressive arts and languages
- Space for personalisation and choice: learners may choose research and presentation methods, musical pieces, composition style
- Applying learning
- Embedding literacy and numeracy skills: researching and presenting information; evaluating; communicating.

ASSESSMENT

- To gain National 4, learners must pass all Units
- Units are assessed as pass or fail by the school/centre (following SQA external quality assurance to meet national standards)
- Unit assessment (or 'evidence of learning') will demonstrate performing competence in two instruments or one instrument and voice; compositional skills; and evidence of knowledge of music concepts, literacy, notation, extracts and styles. Evidence may be oral, observational, a diary or blog or may be gathered through video or audio recordings, presentations, podcasts, answers to questions and may be stored in an e-portfolio
- The Added Value Unit (Performance) will require learners to prepare and perform a programme of music.

National 4 progresses onto National 5

For more detailed course information:

SQA: Music National 4: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47387.html

Education Scotland: www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nationalqualifications/index.asp

Curriculum for Excellence Key Terms and Features Factfile:

www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview_tcm4-665983.pdf



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