

I. Course description and aims

The Diploma Programme Music course (for first teaching from 2020) has been designed to prepare the 21st century music student for a world in which global musical cultures and industries are rapidly changing. The course is grounded in the knowledge, skills and processes associated with the study of music and offers a strengthened approach to student creativity through practical, informed and purposeful explorations of diverse musical forms, practices and contexts.

The course also ensures a holistic approach to learning, with the roles of performer, creator and researcher afforded equal importance in all course components. The aims of the music course are to enable students to: z explore a range of musical contexts and make links to, and between, different musical practices, conventions and forms of expression z acquire, develop and experiment with musical competencies through a range of musical practices, conventions and forms of expression, both individually and in collaboration with others evaluate and develop critical perspectives on their own music and the work of others.

Engagement with diverse musical material The new course seeks to be inclusive of students with wide-ranging personal and cultural musical backgrounds. In place of prescribed musical content, students and teachers in the new course have the agency to personalise unique approaches to musical forms, genres and pieces.

The exploration of diverse musical material is focused through the lenses of four areas of inquiry. Music for sociocultural and political expression Music for listening and performance, Music for dramatic impact, movement and entertainment Music technology in the digital age.

II. Curriculum model overview

Students at SL and HL submit the following common assessment tasks. An exploration portfolio:

Written work demonstrating engagement with, and understanding of, diverse musical material, along with practical exercises in creating and performing

An experimentation report:

Written work in the form of a rationale and commentary that supports practical musical evidence of experimentation in creating and performing

A musical presentation:

Finished works in creating and performing, supported by programme notes.

In addition, HL students will submit the following project.

A collaborative project:

A continuous multimedia presentation documenting a real-life project, containing evidence of the project proposal, the process and evaluation, and the realized project, or curated selections of it.

By the end of the course students will have:

- broadened their musical horizons through engagement with diverse musical material
- analysed a wide range of music
- engaged with music technology as a compulsory part of the course
- gained confidence in the essential processes associated with music-making
- developed as holistic musicians with experience as creators and performers.