Year 11 Transition to A level Music

Dear year 11 I look forward to seeing you in September. I have put together some tasks for you to complete before you start your A level music course. There are some listening theory and performance tasks for you to have a go at.

This is particularly focused on the AQA A level course but the tasks are of more general use.

**Listening and describing**

* As in GCSE we will need to get really good at describing music using appropriate technical terms. Knowing your musical vocabulary is therefore essential please complete the attached glossary and the four listening comparison tasks attached.

**Performance**

Make sure you don’t neglect your playing during this break. If you are having online lessons with your teacher, then that will obviously keep you going. If you are not, I suggest you do at least some of the tasks below to keep yourself in practice.

* polish up a piece you are already working on and video it. You could then share it with your friends and family. If you want to get ahead of the game send it to me at p.windibank@hughfaringdon.org
* resurrect an older piece that you really enjoyed. You will be able to play it better now you are a bit more advanced. Listen to some performances of the piece on Apple Music/Spotify/Youtube. What do you like about these performances? Is there anything you can incorporate? Again, you could video your performance.

When we start the A level course we begin with a module called Starting Points in which we review basic theory through some simple composition tasks. We will go over keys, triads, dissonance etc. If you do want to get ahead I suggest you look at the web page below and attempt the following topics in the suggested sections. **NB – this is an optional task as there are things here we have not covered at GCSE.**

[**Musictheory.net**](https://www.musictheory.net/lessons)

* *The Basics* – all sections
* *Rhythm and Metre*– all sections
* *Scales and Key Signatures* – all sections
* *Intervals*– all sections
* The first two lessons from *Chords*, *Diatonic Chords* and the first from *Chord Progressions*would be a bonus