



Unit 1: Initial Performance Proposals

DEADLINE: Thursday 5th September

<i>Name</i>	
<i>Principal Instrument</i>	
<i>Teacher</i>	
If your teacher is NOT going to be a college teacher, please give their details below	
<i>Email</i>	
<i>Phone number</i>	

Please read notes overleaf before filling in this form!

Composer	Piece	Grade	EXACT LENGTH
Total length : (at least 5 minutes)			

Your signature	
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Over the next two years at King Edward VI, you will do two assessed performances as part of A level music. It is really important that you discuss these performances with your teacher and plan carefully so that you get the best marks that you possibly can.

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Type and length of performance</i>	<i>Expected standard</i>
AS	February	5-6 minute recorded performance	approx. Grade 5-6
A2	Easter	12-15 minute recital	approx. Grade 6-7

Don't Panic – Do Plan!

There is no need to panic – we will give you lots of support, including a full mock assessment to help you prepare for these exams. You do need to make sure, however, that you understand what is needed and plan very carefully.

Please keep the following points in mind:

- It is much better to play pieces that are well within your capability than to struggle with more difficult ones. Although there are one or two extra marks (out of 40) given to more difficult pieces, the emphasis is on playing accurately, musically and giving a really convincing overall performance. If you battle through unnecessarily difficult music, you will not achieve this sort of performance
- Don't use pieces for your AS that are better suited for A2 – in other words save more challenging pieces for next year.
- Don't plan to take graded exams close to either of these performances – you need to focus on playing well in your A level, which must take priority over other music exams.
- Don't plan to rehash old pieces on minimal practice. If you do revisit grade 5 or 6 pieces that you have played before, come to them fresh – improve your tuning, tone and accuracy, turn them into a real performance, in which you can really communicate the music to your audience (much easier to do if the pieces are well within your grasp)
- If you are a jazz musician, you might consider offering an improvised performance for one or more of your pieces. Such performances must be based on a written lead sheet or other stimulus.