

# National Added Value Unit Specification



---

**Unit title:** Music Performance (National 4)

**SCQF:** level 4 (6 SCQF credit points)

**Unit code:** to be advised

---

## Unit outline

This is one of the optional Added Value Units in the Music (National 4) Course. The general aim of this Unit is to enable the learner to provide evidence of added value for the Music (National 4) Course for learners completing the optional Unit *Music: Performing Skills*, through the successful completion of a performance which will allow the learner to demonstrate challenge and application.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to carry out a musical performance which shows that they can apply their creative and technical music skills and understanding of music in a new context when they:

- 1 Perform two agreed programmes of music

This Unit is one of two optional AV Units of the Music (National 4) Course, and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The Unit Specification should be read in conjunction with the *Course Support Notes*, which provide advice and guidance on delivery and assessment approaches. Exemplification of the assessment in this Unit is given in the *National Assessment Resource*.

## Recommended entry

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. It is recommended that the learner should be in the process of completing, or have completed, the following Units in the Music (National 4) Course:

- ◆ Music: Composing Skills (National 4)
- ◆ Understanding Music (National 4)
- ◆ Music: Performing Skills (National 4)

## Equality and inclusion

This Unit Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. For further information please refer to the *Course Support Notes*.

# Standards

## Outcomes and assessment standards

### Outcome 1

The learner will carry out a musical performance which shows that they can apply their creative and technical music skills and understanding of music in a new context when:

- 1 Performing two agreed programmes of music by:**
  - 1.1 Selecting, with some support, two or more contrasting pieces of music for two contrasting instruments, or one instrument and voice
  - 1.2 Performing the agreed music on their chosen instruments, or one instrument and voice, with sufficient technical accuracy in pitch and rhythm
  - 1.3 Maintaining musical flow throughout the programmes of music in solo and/or group performances
  - 1.4 Realising the composers' intentions with regard to phrasing and dynamics
  - 1.5 Reflecting on the strengths and weaknesses of their performances

### Evidence Requirements for the Unit

Evidence for this Unit will be generated through a performance of two agreed contrasting programmes of music on two contrasting instruments, or one instrument and voice, of a minimum of four minutes duration each, in which the learner will demonstrate challenge and application.

This Added Value Unit is assessed internally by the teacher/lecturer.

The learner should be provided with a clear outline of the assessment, including when and how they will be assessed. The teacher/lecturer should offer the learner guidance on an appropriate choice of performances, including questions/tasks/prompts which will lead the learner through the assessment in clear stages. This should involve advice which assists the learner to describe and explain the key features of the performances.

While the learner should choose the performances, it would be reasonable for the choices the learner makes to be choices in which the teacher/lecturer has some expertise and has resources available to enable the learner to more successfully meet the Assessment Standards.

The learner will draw on, extend and apply the skills they have learned during the Course. This will be assessed through the performance. This will be underpinned by knowledge and understanding of music and will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice.

The learner will perform music in two solo and/or group performances with sufficient accuracy to realise the composers' intentions for the pieces with regard to phrasing and dynamics, use self-reflection, creative decision making and have awareness of music styles and features when reflecting on their performances.

In the performances, the learner will demonstrate the ability to effectively use the required musical technique(s) and convey the pitch and rhythm of notes correctly and at the appropriate tempo. Successful performances will also demonstrate their ability to interpret

the composers' instructions in areas such as phrasing and dynamics, and show their ability to communicate with the listener while performing.

Performances should be 'live' and will be carried out in front of an audience in a familiar classroom setting. In this case, an audience is defined as one or more observers, which may include other learners or teacher/lecturers. Teachers/lecturers should use an observation checklist to record individual learners' achievement during the performance.

Teachers/lecturers should either use open questioning techniques or structured task instructions to help the learner to self-reflect on the suitability of their music choices and to help them select music of a suitable standard. The music chosen should allow the learner to demonstrate a range of musical skills.

Evidence for this may be presented in a variety of ways to suit the specific needs of the learner and centres. These include, for example, written, oral and recorded evidence, or any other assessment method that allows the learner to present evidence of achievement.

Each programme of music should be a minimum of four minutes, to a maximum of five minutes, in duration.

Further information is provided in the exemplification of assessment in the *National Assessment Resource*. Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Course Support Notes*.

## **Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work**

Please refer to the Course Specification for information about skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

Draft

## **Further mandatory information on Course coverage for the Music (National 4) Course**

The following gives details of mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Music (National 4) Course. Assessment of this Added Value Unit will involve selecting appropriate skills, knowledge and understanding from those listed below, in line with the Evidence Requirements above. This list of skills, knowledge and understanding also provides the basis for the assessment of all the Units in the Course:

- ◆ understanding of music concepts, musical literacy and styles/genres of music
- ◆ the ability to reflect on their developing technical and musical performing skills
- ◆ applying technical and musical performing skills while performing programmes of selected music in two chosen contrasting instruments, or one instrument and voice

## Administrative information



---

**Published:** August 2011 (draft version 1.0)

**Superclass:** to be advised

---

### History of changes

| Version | Description of change | Authorised by | Date |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------|------|
|         |                       |               |      |
|         |                       |               |      |
|         |                       |               |      |
|         |                       |               |      |

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2011

This specification may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged. Additional copies of this Unit can be downloaded from SQA's website at [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk).

Note: readers are advised to check SQA's website: [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk) to ensure they are using the most up-to-date version of the Unit Specification.