

Summer Work

July 2021

Music A Level

In order to best use your time over the summer, we suggest the following activities:

Performance

Practise your instruments. Properly. Do it regularly and for short periods of time. Engage in *deliberate practice*. There are lots of videos online explaining this.

Composition

Start to build a 'notebook' of ideas. These can be lyrics, chord progressions, short melodies, anything. Write them down, record them, or add them into some software. Keep *everything*, even the stuff you don't like.

Listening

Listen widely, and listen actively. There are countless sources to discover new music online:

- BBC Radio 3
- New Sounds
- Classic FM
- Mixcloud
- Bandcamp
- Spotify/Apple Music

Listen specifically to the following artists and styles. Do some research about the background context, and key musical features of, the following:

- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
- Billie Holiday
- 1930s Swing Era Jazz
- Classical Chamber Music

Misc.

Do as many musical things as possible. Go to a prom, watch a concert, watch a documentary, read a book. The A Level Music course rewards a breadth of knowledge, wider reading, and independent study.

Beaumont Music, July 2021