

Originator: Arts Education Branch, Student Development Curriculum Division
Distribution: All Secondary and Mixed Level Schools



Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE

ANNEX A

**APPLICATION FOR GCE O-LEVEL MUSIC COURSE (2022 - 2023)
INFORMATION SHEET FOR APPLICANTS**

INTRODUCTION

- 1 The application for the GCE O-Level Music course 2022– 2023 is now open to all students who will be in either the
 - (a) Secondary 3 Express or Normal (Academic) or Normal (Technical) course, or
 - (b) Secondary 4 Normal (Academic) course in 2022.

BACKGROUND

- 2 The O-Level Music course is for students with a strong interest to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of music beyond the foundations laid by the primary and lower-secondary music syllabus. Students who also have musical performance background from Music CCAs, other school-based music programmes or external music-related activities can be encouraged to offer.

O- LEVEL MUSIC SYLLABUS COVERAGE

- 3 The revised O-Level Music syllabus implemented since 2019 engages students through rich and integrated experiences in Listening, Creating and Performing, and enables them to find relevance and purpose in their music learning. Students would gain an in-depth study in a diverse selection of musical genres and styles through five Areas of Study (AoS):

Area of Study (AoS)	Genre / Tradition
1. Western Classical	Solo Instrumental Music, Chamber Music, Symphony
2. Asian Music	Music of Malay Traditional Dances, Chinese Ensemble Music, Indian Ensemble Music, Gamelan (Javanese)
3. Jazz	Traditional Jazz, Swing, Bebop, Cool Jazz
4. Popular Music	Late 1960s Pop-Rock, Synth-Pop, R&B/Soul
5. Music in Multimedia	Music in Film, Television and Advertising

- 4 Students would get to explore ways of music making using digital means (e.g. using Digital Audio Workstations) and also get to learn with a class of like-minded peers from other schools. More information on the syllabus can be found here:

<https://go.gov.sg/olmsyllabus>

APPLICATION PROCESS

- 5 Students enrolled in schools that do not offer the Enhanced Music Programme (EMP), Music Elective Programme (MEP) and O-Level Music as a subject are to apply for the course online at <https://go.gov.sg/2022olevelmusiccourse>. Applicants will need to provide the email address of the Music coordinator from their school as well as a link to their video submissions (more info below) for the online application. They can approach their school's Music coordinators first for more information.
- 6 There are two components to the Selection Exercise: **All applicants are required to complete both components of the Selection Exercise, regardless of their attainment of certifications by external examination boards.** This is because the GCE O-Level Music syllabus and the syllabuses of the external examination boards are different. Applications with late submissions will not be accepted unless valid reasons are provided (e.g. medical).
- 7 An outline of the two component is as follows:

<u>Component 1</u> Audition (online submission)	Applicants are to perform and video-record two contrasting (e.g. different style, tradition, mood) solo pieces on an instrument (e.g. piano, <i>rebab</i> , <i>dizi</i> , <i>sitar</i>) or voice, lasting <u>no longer than five minutes in total</u> . If the video-recording exceeds five minutes, only the first five minutes of the submission will be assessed. The full requirements for video-recording submission can be found in the next section of this document.
<u>Component 2</u> e-Listening Test (in person)	Applicants are to sit for an e-Listening Test on 16 August 2021, Monday , in the afternoon. If an applicant were to miss the e-Listening Test without any valid reason (e.g. medical reason), his/her application will be considered void. More details can be found in the next section of this document.

DETAILS OF THE SELECTION EXERCISE

- 8 Full details for the Online Application form and Components 1 and 2 of the Selection Exercise are in the table below:

Online Application
<p>Information Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student applicant's particulars (full name, gender, secondary school, class in 2021, contact details, residential address) • Parent's/guardian's particulars (full name, relationship to applicant, contact details) • Music coordinator's particulars (full name, email address) • Musical Background and Experiences of Applicant (E.g. CCAs, school-based music programmes or external music-related activities.) • Link of student applicant's video-recording
Component 1: Audition (online submission)
<p>Selection of Pieces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two solo pieces of different styles, moods and/or traditions, reflecting applicant's current abilities, should be selected and performed in the video-recording. • Applicants are discouraged to play two movements from the same piece so that a better range of repertoire can be presented. • Applicants can submit two solo pieces, each on a different instrument, should they choose to do so.

- If pieces selected exceed five minutes in length, applicants should record only a selected portion of the piece.

Specifications:

- Applicants are to be in school uniform for the video-recording.
- The following must be in clear view in the video-recording(s), and not be obstructed by music stands or other objects:
 - Applicant's face
 - Applicant's posture when playing the instrument (e.g. arms, hands, fingers, instrument; recording of piano performance should include sight of pedalling; recording of cello performance should be of the full body, including sight of feet)
- Video-recording must not be edited, and recorded not more than three months before the application deadline. Expensive professional recording services are not necessary and strongly discouraged.
- Accompaniment is not necessary for the video-recording.
- Verbal introductions of the pieces played are not required.

Submission:

- Upload to Google Drive and submit the sharing link on the online application.
- Ensure file-sharing permissions are set as '*Public*' or '*Anyone with the link*'.
- Acceptable file formats: MP4, M4V, AVI, FLV, MOV
- File name: school name_student's full name
- An instructional video for uploading the video-recording can be found here: <https://youtu.be/J0uVHixC-6M>
- Applicants should preview and test the links to their video-recordings before submitting the online application form.
- [Optional] Applicants who have composed music could upload their scores/recordings in the same folder containing the performance video-recordings.

Component 2: e-Listening Test

In this e-listening test, students will listen to short musical extracts taken from both Western and non-Western musical traditions, and respond through a series of short-answer questions. The scope of the questions will include the identification and/or description of the following:

- Melody (e.g. accidentals, articulation; contour; intervals; mood)
- Tonality (major and minor), pentatonic mode
- Key signature (score reading of up to one sharp and one flat)
- Harmony (I – V – I, I – vi – IV – V, I – IV – V – I)
- Tempo, Rhythm and Time Signature (simple duple/triple/quadruple, compound duple/triple)
- Instrumentation and/or tone colour (recognise and identify broad categories of musical instruments from western and non-western traditions, e.g. string, wind, percussion)
- Dynamics
- Musical Textures
- Form/Structure (e.g. Binary (AB), Ternary (ABA), Rondo, Theme and Variations, 12-bar Blues, Popular song structures)

- 9 Applicants may approach their school's Music coordinator for assistance should they face issues.

O-LEVEL MUSIC CENTRES

- 10 Successful applicants will attend music classes held weekly at one of the following centres in the afternoon. The duration of each class is approximately three hours. They will be invited to choose their centres in September 2021. All centres take in students of both genders.
- 11 The list of O-Level centres below serves as a guide and is subject to change. An updated list will be provided in the Selection Form for successful applicants in September 2021.

No	Centre	Address
1	Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary School	751 Yishun Avenue 7
2	Ang Mo Kio Secondary School	6 Ang Mo Kio Street 22
3	Catholic High School	9 Bishan Street 22
4	CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls' School	501 Ang Mo Kio St 13
5	Chung Cheng High School (Main)	50 Goodman Road
6	Crescent Girls' School	357 Tanglin Road
7	Methodist Girls' School (Secondary)	11 Blackmore Drive
8	St. Margaret's Secondary School	111 Farrer Road
9	Tanjong Katong Girls' School	20 Dunman Lane
10	Yuhua Secondary School	35 Jurong West Street 41

TIMELINE

- 12 The application and selection timelines are summarised in the table below. Please note that the dates reflected may change in accordance with COVID-19 Safe Management Measures. Applicants will be updated through their school's Music coordinator should a change in dates be effected.

Date	Course of Action
By 28 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Apply for the GCE O- Level Music course <u>online</u> and upload all the necessary supporting documents at https://go.gov.sg/2022olevelmusiccourseEnsure that applicant's and parent's/guardian's email addresses are correct and active.
By 6 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All applicants will be informed about details of the e-Listening Test on 16 August 2021, Monday by their secondary school's Music coordinator.
16 August (PM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Applicants to sit for e-Listening Test at their own schoolsApplicants and their parents to attend an e-briefing at 5.30pm on the O-Level Music Course from home after the e-Listening Test.
By 27 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All applicants will receive the outcomes of the Selection Exercise from their school's Music coordinator.Successful applicants will receive a notification letter to select O-Level Music Centres.
End October	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Successful applicants will receive notification on the posting outcome from their secondary school's Music coordinator.

CLARIFICATION

- 13 For more information, students may approach the Music coordinators from their respective schools. Alternatively, they may also contact:

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