



# ARMADALE ACADEMY

## National 5 Music How to Pass Guide

*for parents and carers*

### Exam breakdown and links to key SQA documents

- Exam Breakdown: Practical exam playing 2 instruments – 60% of final grade & Listening exam during SQA Exam diet in May – 40% of final grade

- Exam Components:

In the practical exam students will play a minimum of two pieces on each of their instruments. The duration of all of their pieces must be between 6 minutes and 6 minutes 30 seconds, with the minimum time they can play on one instrument being 1 minute 30 seconds. This is assessed by an external SQA examiner who marks each instrument out of 30 which makes up 30% of the student's overall grade.

In May, students complete a question paper where they will listen to excerpts of music and be assessed on their knowledge and understanding of musical concepts and music literacy. This is out of 40 marks and makes up 40% of the final grade.

- Past Papers: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47391.html>

### Resources to support your child

Websites:

- <https://mymusiconline.co.uk/national-5>
- [https://ataea.co.uk/index.php/National\\_5\\_\(Music\)](https://ataea.co.uk/index.php/National_5_(Music))
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zkty4wx>

Microsoft Teams page

[N4/5 Music 2021/22 Teams page](#)

### Practical strategies to support your child

- It is important that students are able to perform in front of people in preparation for their practical exam. Ask them to play their pieces to you if they have access to an instrument at home.
- Access the resources outlined in the previous section

### How can you support your child?

- Ensure that students are regularly practising their pieces in preparation for their March practical exam. It is also important that they regularly revise music concepts using the links provided. Specifically, the N5 quizzes on [mymusiconline.co.uk](https://mymusiconline.co.uk) are really helpful.