

September 2026 MTB Syllabus Review

SYLLABUS ADDITIONS:

Instrument	Exam Type	Grade	Section	Addition
Alto Saxophone	Practical	Grades 1 - 8	Scales	Alternative set of Jazz Scales.
Clarinet	Practical	Grades 1 - 8	Scales	Alternative set of Jazz Scales.
Contemporary Drums	Practical & Performance	Grade 2	Recital Section	'Karma Police' has been added.
Contemporary Singing	Practical & Performance	Grades 1 - 8	Recital Section	Some new songs have been added to the repertoire list.
Flute	Practical & Performance	Grades 1 - 5 & 7	Recital Section	Some new pieces have been added to the repertoire list.
Keyboard	Practical & Performance	Grades 1 & 2	Recital Section	- Grade 1: 'Jurassic Park' has been added. - Grade 2: 'Star Wars' has been added.
Piano	Practical & Performance	Pre-Grade Higher - Grade 8	Recital Section	Some new pieces have been added to the repertoire list.

Syllabus Additions continued

Instrument	Exam Type	Grade	Section	Addition
Sikh Sacred Music	Practical	Grades 3 to 8	Syllabus & MTB Books	New syllabus and books.
Singing	Practical & Performance	Grades 1 - 8	Recital Section	Some new songs have been added to the repertoire list.
Tuba	Practical & Performance	Grade 1	Recital Section	'Final Fantasy X - To Zanarkand' has been added.
Violin	Practical & Performance	Grades 1 - 6 & 8	Recital Section	Some new pieces have been added to the repertoire list.

SYLLABUS UPDATES:

Instrument	Exam Type	Grade	Section	Change	Transition Period Ends
Contemporary Singing	Practical & Performance	Grade 7	Recital Section	'Memory' has been regraded to Grade 7.	31/03/2027
Piano	Practical & Performance	Grades 6 - 8	Recital Section	'The Heart Asks Pleasure First' (Nyman) has been regraded to Grade 6. 'Fantasy in D Minor' (Mozart) has been regraded to Grade 7. 'Sonata No.8 Op.13: Adagio cantabile' (Beethoven) has been regraded to Grade 8. 'Rondo Alla Turca' (Mozart) has been regraded to Grade 8.	31/03/2027

Syllabus Updates continued

Instrument	Exam Type	Grade	Section	Change	Transition Period Ends
Contemporary Singing	Practical & Performance	Grade 7	Recital Section	'Memory' has been regarded to Grade 7.	31/03/2027
Singing	Practical & Performance	Grade 7	Recital Section	'Memory' has been regraded to Grade 7.	31/03/2027
Singing	Practical & Performance	Grade 8	Recital Section	'Someone To Watch Over Me' edition has been amended.	Not applicable
Singing	Practical & Performance	Grade 8	Recital Section	'Defying Gravity' has been regraded to Grade 8.	31/03/2027

SYLLABUS REVISIONS:

Instrument	Exam Type	Grade	Section	Change	Transition Period Ends
Double Bass	Practical	Grade 3	Scales	A minor pentatonic scale has been revised.	31/12/2026
Piano	Practical & Performance	Grade 4	Recital Section	The title of piece 'Merry Go Round' has been amended to 'The Boys' Round Dance Op.34 No.2'.	Not applicable
Piano	Practical & Performance	Grade 4	MTB Book	The Boys' Round Dance Op.34 No.2: the left hand in bars 27-29 has been corrected (to match bars 19-21).	31/12/2026
Piano	Practical	Grade 5	Technical Section & Scales	- Exercise 1: the articulation has been marked <i>legato</i>. - Scales and Arpeggios: the articulation (legato, staccato) and rhythm (even, swung) have been specified.	31/12/2026

Syllabus Revisions continued

Instrument	Exam Type	Grade	Section	Change	Transition Period Ends
Piano	Practical & Performance	Grade 8	MTB Book	‘Nocturne in B flat minor Op.9 No.1’ (Chopin): the fourth quaver in the left hand in bars 26 and 34 has been corrected to B double flat.	31/12/2026
Singing	Practical	Grade 8	Vaccai Exercises	‘Introduction to Trills’ exercise: bar 5, the legato marking on the semiquavers has been amended.	31/12/2026
Viola	Practical	Grade 1	Technical Section	Exercise 3: a clarification has been added regarding the tempo marking.	31/12/2026
Violin	Practical	Pre-Grade Higher	Technical Section	Exercise 3, a repeat marking has been added.	31/12/2026
Violin	Practical	Grade 1	Technical Section	Exercise 3: a clarification has been added regarding the tempo marking.	31/12/2026
Violin	Practical	Grade 3	Scales & Alternative Scales	A clarification has been added for the tempo of the arpeggios in quaver triplets.	31/12/2026
Violin	Practical	Grade 7	Duet	Teacher part: the penultimate note of the penultimate bar has been amended to A (from G), therefore matching the candidate part.	31/12/2026

OTHER SYLLABUS UPDATES:

Instrument	Exam Type	Grade	Section	Update
Bassoon	Practical	Grades 1 - 8	Duet	Louder versions of the exam and practice speeds recording have been uploaded on our website.
Contemporary Singing	Practical	Grades 1 - 8	Technical Section	Recordings which include the accompaniments for Technical Exercises.
All instruments	Practical	Grades 1 - 8	Technical Section	We have clarified in the FAQs on our website that although repeats are optional in pieces, they must be included where indicated in Technical Exercises.

FORTHCOMING SYLLABUS ADDITIONS:

Instrument	Exam Type	Grade	Information
Lever Harp	Practical & Performance	Grades 1 - 8	We will be releasing a Lever Harp Syllabus by the end of October 2026.
Musical Theatre - Singing	Performance	Grades 1 - 8	We will be releasing a Musical Theatre - Singing Syllabus by the end of October 2026.
Interactive Music Theory	Course, Practice & Exam	Grade 7	We will be releasing Grade 7 Theory course, practice and exam by the end of September 2026.