

# St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Syllabus - Beginner

## **Technical Work** (20 Marks)

All the technical requirements for this grade are printed in the St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Album - Beginner Grade. Check the SCSM website regularly for the latest update.

**Scale:** Open G (3rd string) to G (1st string). Downstrokes only, ascending/descending.

**Chord:** E major & E minor. To be played with a downstroke.

All technical requirements to be performed by memory.

## **Performance Items**

Three pieces to be performed. Choose ONE piece from each ITEM listing. All pieces are contained in the St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Albums available directly from Jayday Music Education ([www.jayday.com](http://www.jayday.com)) and leading music stores.

ITEM 1 (20 Marks)	ITEM 2 (20 Marks)	ITEM 3 (20 Marks)
So It begins	Se Nacho	Exercise 1
Power Up	Ignition	Exercise 2
The Pirate	Cool 68	Exercise 3
Cave Aura Lee	Walt Zed	Exercise 4

## **General Knowledge** (10 Marks)

Candidates will be asked **five** questions relating to the instrument as well as pieces performed. A prompt and correct response is expected in order to achieve full marks.

- (a) Name each guitar string commencing from the thickest string: **E A D G B E**
- (b) Name the basic components of the guitar: **Head or Headstock, Neck, Body, Bridge, Nut, Frets.**
- (c) To recognise and name the treble clef.
- (d) To name note values using any correct terminology.
- (e) To name and play any note from one of the performed pieces.

**Note:** Candidates who have completed the St. Cecilia Beginner Grade Theory (or higher) are exempted from this section. A report or certificate must be shown to the examiner in order to claim exemption.

## **Ear Tests** (10 Marks)

The examiner will play each test twice on the piano.

- (a) to reproduce by clapping a simple two-bar phrase played by the examiner which uses quavers, crotchets and minims only.
- (b) to state which of two notes is higher or lower in pitch, the range of which will be no lower than a minor 3<sup>rd</sup> and no higher than an octave.
- (c) to sing any one note correctly in tune after it has been played by the examiner.
- (d) to recognise a chordal passage played by the examiner as major or minor.

## **Exam Setting**

St Cecilia will provide an examiner to attend individual teachers' schools/studios if a minimum of 10 students have been entered. Teachers may pool their students in order to obtain the minimum numbers.

Setup time: To be set up in advance of the examination but a maximum of 5 minutes will be allowed if required. Candidates should supply their own amplifier and lead as well as PA system/Stereo. Effects pedals and stomp boxes may be used as long as they are set up in the allotted set up time. An acoustic or electric guitar is acceptable for examinations. Care should be taken however to ensure that the instrument is consistent with the style of the chosen pieces. For example, an electric guitar should be used if the chosen piece is a rock song. Students should bring both an acoustic and an electric guitar if their exam program requires both.

# St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Syllabus - Junior

## Technical Work (20 Marks)

All the technical requirements for this grade are printed in the St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Album - Junior Grade. Check the SCSM website regularly for the latest update.

**Scales:** C, G and F major scale. One octave. Alternate picking, ascending/descending.  
**Chord:** E, Em, C, G, D, Dm, A, Am. To be played with a downstroke.

## Performance Items

Three pieces to be performed. Choose ONE piece from each ITEM listing. All pieces are contained in the St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Albums available directly from Jayday Music Education ([www.jayday.com](http://www.jayday.com)) and leading music stores.

### ITEM 1 (20 Marks)

The Hidden City  
4 String Lullaby  
Pedal to the Metal  
Escape Pod

### ITEM 2 (20 Marks)

Celtic Dance  
Jammer  
Blue Z  
Chill Out

### ITEM 3 (20 Marks)

Exercise 1  
Exercise 2  
Exercise 3  
Exercise 4

## General Knowledge (10 Marks)

Candidates will be asked **five** questions relating to the instrument as well as pieces performed. A prompt and correct response is expected in order to achieve full marks.

- (a) Name each guitar string commencing from the thickest string: **E A D G B E**
- (b) To recognise and name the treble clef.
- (c) To recognize (but not explain) the time signature.
- (d) To name note values using any correct terminology.
- (e) To name and play any note from one of the performed pieces.
- (f) To recognize (but not explain) ties, sharp, flat and natural symbols.

**Note:** Candidates who have completed the St. Cecilia Junior Grade Theory (or higher) are exempted from this section. A report or certificate must be shown to the examiner in order to claim exemption.

## Ear Tests (10 Marks)

The examiner will play each test twice on the piano.

- (a) to reproduce by clapping a simple three-bar phrase played at a moderate tempo by the examiner which uses quavers, crotchets and minims.
- (b) To sing any two notes within the range of an octave correctly in tune.
- (c) to state which of two notes is higher or lower using any interval within the octave including the minor 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- (d) to sing any one note correctly in tune after it has been played by the examiner.
- (e) to recognise a chordal passage played by the examiner as major or minor.

## Exam Setting

St Cecilia will provide an examiner to attend individual teachers' schools/studios if a minimum of 10 students have been entered. Teachers may pool their students in order to obtain the minimum numbers.

Setup time: To be set up in advance of the examination but a maximum of 5 minutes will be allowed if required. Candidates should supply their own amplifier and lead as well as PA system/Stereo. Effects pedals and stomp boxes may be used as long as they are set up in the allotted set up time. An acoustic or electric guitar is acceptable for examinations. Care should be taken however to ensure that the instrument is consistent with the style of the chosen pieces. For example, an electric guitar should be used if the chosen piece is a rock song. Students should bring both an acoustic and an electric guitar if their exam program requires both.

# St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Syllabus - Preliminary

## Technical Work (20 Marks)

All the technical requirements for this grade are printed in the St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Album - Preliminary Grade. Check the SCSM website regularly for the latest update.

**Scales:** C, G, F, D and Bb major scale. One octave. Alternate picking, ascending/descending.  
Chromatic scale commencing on A one octave. Alternate picking, ascending/descending.

**Chords:** E, Em, C, G, D, Dm, A, Am, F, Fm, B, Bm. To be played with a downstroke.

## Performance Items

Three pieces to be performed. Choose ONE piece from each ITEM listing. All pieces are contained in the St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Albums available directly from Jayday Music Education ([www.jayday.com](http://www.jayday.com)) and leading music stores.

### ITEM 1 (20 Marks)

Prologue  
Ashes  
Closin' Shop  
Double Stop

### ITEM 2 (20 Marks)

Ay Chris Mun  
High Noon  
Spring Board  
Majority

### ITEM 3 (20 Marks)

Exercise 1  
Exercise 2  
Exercise 3  
Exercise 4

## General Knowledge (10 Marks)

All candidates will be asked **five** questions relating to the pieces performed. A prompt and correct response is expected in order to achieve full marks.

- (a) To recite the chromatic scale commencing on the note "A" using sharps. (ascending)
- (b) To recite the chromatic scale commencing on the note "A" using flats. (ascending)
- (c) To name and explain the time signature.
- (d) To name any note between frets 1-4.
- (e) To recognise and explain dotted notes, ties, sharp, flat and natural symbols.
- (f) To name note values using any correct terminology.

**Note:** Candidates who have completed the St. Cecilia Preliminary Grade Theory (or higher) are exempted from this section. A report or certificate must be shown to the examiner in order to claim exemption

## Ear Tests (10 Marks)

The examiner will play each ear test twice on the piano:

- (a) To reproduce by clapping a simple three-bar phrase in 3/4 time played at a moderate tempo by the examiner using crotchets, quavers and minims.
- (b) To sing three notes within the range of an octave correctly in tune.

## Exam Setting

St Cecilia will provide an examiner to attend individual teachers' schools/studios if a minimum of 10 students have been entered. Teachers may pool their students in order to obtain the minimum numbers.

Setup time: To be set up in advance of the examination but a maximum of 5 minutes will be allowed if required. Candidates should supply their own amplifier and lead as well as PA system/Stereo. Effects pedals and stomp boxes may be used as long as they are set up in the allotted set up time. An acoustic or electric guitar is acceptable for examinations. Care should be taken however to ensure that the instrument is consistent with the style of the chosen pieces. For example, an electric guitar should be used if the chosen piece is a rock song. Students should bring both an acoustic and an electric guitar if their exam program requires both.

# St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Syllabus - Grade 1

## **TECHNICAL WORK** (10 Marks)

**Scales:** to be played in quavers using alternate picking.

Open position scales, one octave, to be played using alternate picking as quavers.

1. C, G, F, D and Bb Major.
2. Chromatic scale commencing on A

The candidate will be asked by the examiner to perform **three** of the following four moveable scale patterns commencing on one of the following notes: **Either G, A or B.**

1. Chromatic scale. (Two octaves, no open strings)
2. Major pattern 1
3. Major Pentatonic pattern 1
4. Minor Pentatonic pattern 1

### **Chords:**

Open position chords:

1. Major: E, C, G, D, A, F, B
2. Minor: Em, Dm, Am, Fm, Bm

The candidate will be asked by the examiner to demonstrate **any three** of the following four moveable scale patterns. The candidate must prepare all four chords commencing on the notes G,A and B. The examiner will ask one starting note only, **either G, A or B.**

1. Power chord (with the root note on the 6th string)
2. Power chord (with the root note on the 5th string)
3. Major Barre Chord (with the root note on the 6th string)
4. Minor Barre Chord (with the root note on the 6th string)

## **PERFORMANCE ITEMS**

Four pieces to be performed. Choose ONE piece from each ITEM listing. All pieces are contained in the St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Albums available directly from Jayday Music Education ([www.jayday.com](http://www.jayday.com)) and leading music stores.

### **ITEM 1: Free Choice (20 Marks)**

The Free Choice piece may be chosen from Item 2 or 3. Alternatively, the student may submit a piece of an equivalent standard and length, a copy of which must be presented to the examiner.

### **ITEM 2: (20 Marks)**

Armed and Ready  
Red Land  
Jazzin'  
Dark Horse

### **ITEM 3: (20 Marks)**

I am the Rocker  
Set Sail  
Reach the Summit  
Wishing

### **ITEM 4: (20 Marks)**

Exercise 1  
Exercise 2  
Exercise 3  
Exercise 4

## **PROGRAMME NOTES** (10 Marks)

This section will require an accurate and prompt response to questions related to the content of the musical score. The following areas must be covered in preparation:

- (i) Key signatures
- (ii) Time signatures
- (iii) Notation – pitch - duration
- (iv) All terms and signs on the score

**Note:** Candidates who have completed the St. Cecilia Grade One Theory (or higher) are exempted from this section. A report or certificate must be shown to the examiner in order to claim exemption.

# St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Syllabus - Grade 2

## **TECHNICAL WORK (10 Marks)**

**Scales:** to be played in quavers using alternate picking.

The candidate will be asked by the examiner to demonstrate **any three** of the following four moveable scale patterns. The candidate must prepare all four patterns commencing on the notes D, G, A or Bb. The examiner will ask one starting note only, **either** D, G, A or Bb.

1. Major pattern 1 and 2 (in the same key)
2. Major Pentatonic pattern 1 and 2 (in the same key)
3. Minor Pentatonic pattern 1 and 2 (in the same key)
4. Natural Minor pattern 1 and 2 (in the same key)

**Arpeggios:** picking to be executed at the candidates discretion.

The candidate will be asked by the examiner to demonstrate **any three** of the following four moveable arpeggio patterns. The candidate must prepare all four patterns commencing on the notes D, G, A or Bb. The examiner will ask one starting note only, **either** D, G, A or Bb.

1. Major (with the root note on the 6th string)
2. Major (with the root note on the 5th string)
3. Minor (with the root note on the 6th string)
4. Minor (with the root note on the 5th string)

**Chords:**

The candidate will be asked by the examiner to demonstrate **any three** of the following six moveable Chords. The candidate must prepare all six chords commencing on the notes D, G, A or Bb. The examiner will ask one starting note only, **either** D, G, A or Bb.

1. Major Barre Chord (with the root note on the 6th string)
2. Major Barre Chord (with the root note on the 5th string)
3. Minor Barre Chord (with the root note on the 6th string)
4. Minor Barre Chord (with the root note on the 5th string)
5. Dominant 7th chord (with the root note on the 6th string)
6. Dominant 7th chord (with the root note on the 5th string)

## **PERFORMANCE ITEMS**

Four pieces to be performed. Choose ONE piece from each ITEM listing. All pieces are contained in the St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Albums available directly from Jayday Music Education ([www.jayday.com](http://www.jayday.com)) and leading music stores.

### **ITEM 1: Free Choice (20 Marks)**

The Free Choice piece may be chosen from Item 2 or 3. Alternatively, the student may submit a piece of an equivalent standard and length, a copy of which must be presented to the examiner.

### **ITEM 3: (20 Marks)**

Dusty  
Opening Up  
Green Mohawk  
Back in the Day

### **ITEM 2: (20 Marks)**

Up to 11  
Missing Keys  
Better Days Now  
Alfresco Freycinet

### **ITEM 4: (20 Marks)**

Exercise 1  
Exercise 2  
Exercise 3  
Exercise 4

## **PROGRAMME NOTES: (10 Marks)**

This section will require an accurate and prompt response to questions related to the content of the musical score. The following areas must be covered in preparation:

- (i) Key signatures
- (ii) Time signatures
- (iv) Notation – pitch - duration
- (iv) All terms and signs on the score

**Note:** Candidates who have completed the St. Cecilia Grade Two (or higher) Theory are exempted from this section. A report or certificate must be shown to the examiner in order to claim exemption.

# St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Syllabus - Grade 3

## **TECHNICAL WORK (10 Marks)**

**Scales:** to be played in quavers using alternate picking.

The candidate will be asked by the examiner to demonstrate **any three** of the following four moveable scale patterns. The candidate must prepare all four patterns commencing on the notes D, C, E or F. The examiner will ask one starting note only, **either D, C, E or F**.

1. Major pattern 1, 2 and 3 (in the same key)
2. Major Pentatonic pattern 1, 2 and 3 (in the same key)
3. Minor Pentatonic pattern 1, 2 and 3 (in the same key)
4. Natural Minor pattern 1, 2 and 3 (in the same key)

**Arpeggios:** picking to be executed at the candidates discretion.

The candidate will be asked by the examiner to demonstrate **any three** of the following four moveable **two octave** arpeggio patterns. The candidate must prepare all four patterns commencing on the notes D, C, E or F. The examiner will ask one starting note only, **either D, C, E or F**.

1. Major (with the root note on the 6th string)
2. Major (with the root note on the 5th string)
3. Minor (with the root note on the 6th string)
4. Minor (with the root note on the 5th string)

The candidate will be asked by the examiner to demonstrate **any three** of the following four moveable **one octave** arpeggio patterns. The candidate must prepare all four patterns commencing on the notes D, C, E or F. The examiner will ask one starting note only, **either D, C, E or F**.

1. Diminished (with the root note on the 6th string)
2. Diminished (with the root note on the 5th string)
3. Augmented (with the root note on the 6th string)
4. Augmented (with the root note on the 5th string)

**Chords:**

The candidate will be asked by the examiner to demonstrate **any three** of the following four moveable chords. The candidate must prepare all four chords commencing on the notes D, C, E or F. The examiner will ask one starting note only, **either D, C, E or F**.

1. Minor 7th (with the root note on the 6th string)
2. Minor 7th (with the root note on the 5th string)
3. Diminished 7th (with the root note on the 6th string)
4. Diminished 7th (with the root note on the 5th string)

## **PERFORMANCE ITEMS**

Four pieces to be performed. Choose ONE piece from each ITEM listing. All pieces are contained in the St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Albums available directly from Jayday Music Education ([www.jayday.com](http://www.jayday.com)) and leading music stores.

### **ITEM 1: Free Choice (20 Marks)**

The Free Choice piece may be chosen from Item 2 or 3. Alternatively, the student may submit a piece of an equivalent standard and length, a copy of which must be presented to the examiner.

### **ITEM 3: (20 Marks)**

Groove Strike  
Y-Bot Army  
Compin  
Through Dreams

### **ITEM 2: (20 Marks)**

Survival  
Heading West  
Together Alone  
Here and There

### **ITEM 4: (20 Marks)**

Exercise 1  
Exercise 2  
Exercise 3  
Exercise 4

## **PROGRAMME NOTES (10 Marks)**

This section will require an accurate and prompt response to questions related to the content of the musical score. The following areas must be covered in preparation:

- (i) Key Signature
- (ii) Time signature
- (iii) Notation – pitch - duration
- (iv) All terms and signs on the score
- (v) An explanation of the candidate's use of improvisation for one of the chosen pieces

**Note:** Candidates who have completed the St. Cecilia Grade Three (or higher) Theory are exempted from this section. A report or certificate must be shown to the examiner in order to claim exemption.

# St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Syllabus - Grade 4

## TECHNICAL WORK (10 Marks)

**Scales:** to be played in quavers using alternate picking.

The candidate will be asked by the examiner to demonstrate **any three** of the following six moveable scale patterns. The candidate must prepare all four patterns commencing on the notes A, Bb, E or G. The examiner will ask one starting note only, **either** A, Bb, E **or** G.

1. Major pattern 1, 2, 3 and 4 (in the same key)
2. Major Pentatonic pattern 1, 2, 3 and 4 (in the same key)
3. Minor Pentatonic pattern 1, 2, 3 and 4 (in the same key)
4. Natural Minor pattern 1, 2, 3 and 4 (in the same key)
5. Harmonic Minor pattern 1
6. Blues scale pattern 1 and 2 (in the same key)

**Arpeggios:** picking to be executed at the candidates discretion.

The candidate will be asked by the examiner to demonstrate **any three** of the following five moveable **one octave** arpeggios patterns. The candidate must prepare all five patterns commencing on the notes A, Bb, E or G. The examiner will ask one starting note only, **either** A, Bb, E **or** G.

1. Major 7th (with the root note on the 6th string)
2. Dominant 7th (with the root note on the 6th string)
3. Minor 7th (with the root note on the 6th string)
4. Minor 7th b5 (with the root note on the 6th string)
5. Diminished 7th (with the root note on the 6th string)

## **Chords:**

The candidate will be asked by the examiner to demonstrate **any three** of the following six moveable chords. The candidate must prepare all six chords commencing on the notes A, Bb, E or G. The examiner will ask one starting note only, **either** A, Bb, E **or** G.

1. Major 7th (with the root note on the 6th string)
2. Major 7th (with the root note on the 5th string)
3. Minor 7th (with the root note on the 6th string)
4. Minor 7th (with the root note on the 5th string)
5. Minor 7th / flat 5th (with the root note on the 6th string)
6. Minor 7th / flat 5th (with the root note on the 5th string)

## PERFORMANCE ITEMS

Four pieces to be performed. Choose ONE piece from each ITEM listing. All pieces are contained in the St Cecilia Contemporary Guitar Albums available directly from Jayday Music Education ([www.jayday.com](http://www.jayday.com)) and leading music stores.

### **ITEM 1: Free Choice (20 Marks)**

The Free Choice piece may be chosen from Item 2 or 3. Alternatively, the student may submit a piece of an equivalent standard and length, a copy of which must be presented to the examiner.

### **ITEM 3: (20 Marks)**

Octane  
Open Fields  
Time Travel  
This is not Good-Bye

### **ITEM 2: (20 Marks)**

Sky Dive  
Night Light Groove  
Reflection  
Sawmill Blues

### **ITEM 4: (20 Marks)**

Exercise 1  
Exercise 2  
Exercise 3  
Exercise 4

**PROGRAMME NOTES**      (10 Marks)

This section will require an accurate and prompt response to questions related to the content of the musical score. The following areas must be covered in preparation:

- (i) Key Signature
- (ii) Time signature
- (iii) Notation – pitch - duration
- (iv) All terms and signs on the score
- (v) An explanation of the candidate's use of improvisation for one of the chosen pieces

**Note:** Candidates who have completed the St. Cecilia Grade Four (or higher) Theory are exempted from this section. A report or certificate must be shown to the examiner in order to claim exemption.