

HARPSICHORD (*Subject Code: 41*): Grades 4 to 8 only

- a* The harpsichord should be easily accessible from the local examination centre, and the teacher or candidate must arrange for it to be available at a time to suit the examiner's other commitments. Transport for the examiner, if requested, must be provided without cost to the Board. Alternatively, the instrument may be situated at a school or teacher's studio where visit arrangements have already been made for candidates in other subjects.
- b* Schedule of maximum marks for all grades:
- | | |
|---|-----------|
| Scales and Arpeggios | 21 |
| Pieces: 1 | 30 |
| 2 | 30 |
| 3 | 30 |
| Playing at Sight and Figured Bass Realization | 21 |
| Aural Tests | <u>18</u> |
| Total | 150 |
- c* When marking, the examiner will pay attention not only to accuracy of notes and time, but also to other elements inherent in a good performance, for example control of touch and phrasing, choice of tempo, observance of marks of expression, where appropriate, and the use of practical fingering.
- d* Scales and arpeggios should be played from memory, ascending and descending throughout the prescribed compass, at a pace appropriate to the technical demands of the grade, consistent with accuracy and distinctness, and with evenness of touch and articulation. Where the range of an instrument happens to be restricted, the range of any affected scale and arpeggio requirements may be reduced accordingly by an octave. Any practical and systematic fingering which produces a good result will be accepted.
- e* Candidates should use their discretion in the choice of pieces in order to present a contrasted and balanced programme.
- f* The majority of examination pieces require an instrument with a range extending up to d^{'''}. The few pieces with a range above this note are indicated in the Lists by an asterisk following the title. Any notes lower than C below bass clef may be transposed up an octave or omitted, as appropriate, should they be unavailable on the instrument used for examination.
- g* Discretion in appropriate changes of registration by means of hand stops or pedals or use of two manuals, if the instrument is so equipped, will be taken into account, but candidates will not be penalized for playing without changes of registration.
- h* Some editions of the pieces may include editorial suggestions for dynamics or other points of interpretation which are only appropriate to the piano; these may be disregarded.
- i* Candidates will be given a short interval of up to half a minute in which to look through and, if they wish, try out any part of the test for Playing at Sight before they are required to perform it for assessment.