

Why do we teach Music?

"Music is a world within itself, with a language we all understand. With an equal opportunity, for all to sing, dance and clap their hands". (Stevie Wonder, Sir Duke)

The lyrics from this verse embodies our beliefs around music education- music is a universal language which plays a role in many cultures around the world. Everybody should have access to a high-quality music education which is designed around instilling a love of learning and promoting the development of musical skills and talents. Our aim is that everyone will have experienced playing a range of instruments such as vocals, bass, piano, guitar and drums, listening to and analysing a range of different musical styles, key composers and performers and composing their own music with and without the use of technology. We are proud of the fact that students all have the opportunity to learn and instrument for free!

How do we teach Music? (Key concepts and skills)

The curriculum is centred around the three core principles of listening to and appraising music, performing and composing. Throughout schemes of work, pupils will revisit these areas, deepening their skills and knowledge of them through a range of styles and activities.

In particular our curriculum has a wide range of resources to ensure that all students can access it-including sheet music in various formats e.g. traditional staff notation, guitar/bass/ukulele tab, drum notation, videos, how to guides and visual prompts and there are different ways to access the learning- e.g. paired work, solo work, group work, using instruments, using computers and technology.

What do we teach in Music?

The curriculum encourages students to think and act like a musician. For example, when students learn how to compose, they learn how to use Logic Pro X effectively, learning techniques that are standard for producers. They learn how to compose to a brief, such as creating music for an animal, films, adverts and writing songs in a Popular Music style. Students learn how to perform in a variety of styles on a range of instruments and develop key skills vital to performing such as confidence, stage presence, eye contact and expression, whilst also developing effective rehearsal skills. During lessons students have regular opportunities to share and perform their work both in progress and as finished pieces, where students are encouraged to critique each other. Listening activities are present in all lessons and students are encouraged to appraise a wide variety of musical styles, composers and artists.

How is Music personalised for our learners?

We have a diverse student body and we believe that it is important that our teaching represents this. For example, we learn about a range of musical styles and cultures, including West African Drumming where we explore music from specific places such as Ghana, Togo and Benin. We also look at music from Greece, Turkey, Palestine, Israel, Indian and the Punjab. We also look at styles which students might have preconceived views on such as Classical Music and as well as exploring music which our students enjoy listening to- for example band projects where students can perform various Popular music genres e.g. EDM, rap, pop and hip-hop.











Year 7	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	Singing and intro to Music Learn to sing as part of a group - developing good vocal technique	Keyboards Learn the basics of playing the keyboard and reading musical notation	Horror Music Learn how to create your own music for scary film scenes using Logic Pro X	African Drumming Develop your djembe drumming skills and learn about drumming traditions across Africa	Use Logic Pro X to compose music using a range of musical elements	Band Breakout Develop your skills and rehearsing and performing as part of a band
Key concepts & skills	You will learn about the basics of melody and pitch including; Tone, semitone Intervals Scales Vocal range Additional concepts Voice types Verse chorus structure Call and response Basic dynamics	You will learn in more detail about pitch and notation including; • Treble and bass clef • Notes on the stave • Sharps, flats and naturals Additional concepts > Piano technique > Notes on the keyboard > Basic chords > Major, minor Learning to perform a piece	You will learn about harmony and tonality including; Chromaticism Semitones (recap sharps and flats) Drone Atonality/dissonance (cluster chords) Additional concepts Ostinato, repetition Timbre including digital effects, reverb etc Orchestral instruments Creating moods with music	You will learn about rhythmic notation including; Note lengths Polyrhythms and cross rhythms Syncopation Rests Pulse and metre Basic time signatures Additional concepts African drumming instruments Call and response Improvisation Context e.g. specific countries and cultures and their history	You will learn about the basic elements of music including; Tempo Chords Melody Structure Bass line Pitch Drum patterns Additional concepts Using loops Basic sequencing MIDI keyboards and note input	You will learn about being a successful band including; Performance and rehearsal skills Additional concepts Timbre- band instruments e.g. bass, guitar, keyboard and drum kit Pop song structure Drum fills Riffs, repetition Pentatonic scale Guitar tab
Summative Assessment	Practical whole class singing performance	Performance of keyboard piece at the end of the scheme of work.	You will create a piece of scary music to accompany a short story of film clip, using Music ICT.	You will perform an African Drumming inspired piece of music as a small group.	You will compose a piece of music using a range of musical elements	You will perform a 2 chord song as part of a band.
Builds on	Prior learning at Primary School	Musical elements learnt in Autumn 1	Piano skills and pitch notation theory learnt in Autumn 2.	Notation skills learnt when studying the keyboard	Piano skills learnt in Autumn 2 and Music Technology skills from Spring 1	Drumming skills learnt in Spring 2 and keyboard skills learnt in Autumn 2. Group skills started with African drumming
Builds towards	Developing vocal and performance skills Knowledge of basic musical elements	Developing piano skills for use in band projects and when using Music ICT	Continuing to develop piano and Music ICT skills, as well as building on key melody, pitch and harmony key words	Developing drumming and rhythm skills for use in bands when playing drum kit and drumming in other Folk Styles such as Indian Classical/Bhangra, Palestinian/Israeli and Greek and Turkish music	Develop music technology and composition skills for use when studying Structure and Composition, The Blues and Classical Music in Year 8	Developing group working skills and band instrument skills such as bass, guitar, piano and drum kit







Year 8	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	The Blues Explore, create and perform music from the Blues tradition	Folk Music Create and perform music inspired by Middle Eastern and Eastern European Folk.	Structure and Composition Explore how structure is used in music and compose your own piece of music	Class Playlist Explore Popular music genres and rehearse and perform as a band	Classical Music Listen and perform to music across different Classical Music periods.	Salsa Explore South American Salsa music and will learn to perform as part of a group.
Key concepts & skills	You will learn about conventions of Blues including; 12 bar Blues structure Walking bass Triads Chords naming I,IV,V Additional concepts Blues instruments Improvisation Scat singing Swung/dotted notes Inversions Historical context	You will learn about harmony and tonality including; Major/minor Scales e.g. modal, pentatonic, chromatic Pedal/drone Irregular time sigs Additional concepts Traditional instruments Tech key words e.g. looping, midi Homophonic texture Recap of pitchtreble/bass clefs, stave and score Historical, political and social contexts	You will learn about key musical structures including; Binary Ternary Rondo Arch Theme and variations Strophic Through-composed Additional concepts; Music Tech Quantizing Synthesiser, drum machine, multitracking Loops	You will learn about the conventions of Popular Music including; Pop song structure Middle 8, hook Riff Additional concepts Key features of different genres of Popular music Development of Popular music over time Musical layers e.g. Bassline, melody, beat, counter-melody, chords.	You will learn about; Basic pitch notation Dynamics such as forte, piano, diminuendo and crescendo. Basic rhythm notation Texture Tempo key words e.g. accelerando Additional concepts Orchestral instruments Expression Articulation key words e.g. staccato and legato, pizzicato and con arco	You will learn these key words; Son clave Syncopation Salsa instruments Riff Piano guajeo Verse and tag Improvisation Additional concepts Context Working as a team Working from scores/tabs/videos
Summative Assessment	Students will create a piece of music using Logic Pro X demonstrating Blues techniques learnt	Students will create and perform their own piece Middle Eastern/ Greek Folk Music and drums and guitars/ukuleles	Students will create their own composition using Logic Pro X	Students will perform as a band on drums, vocals, bass, guitar or piano.	Students will record a piece of Classical Music using Logic Pro X	Students will perform a Salsa piece as a group on either bass, drums, Saxophone or piano.
Builds on	Skills developed on Logic Pro X in year 7	Prior work done in bands and rhythm work studied in African Drumming	Skills developed on Logic Pro X and keyboards	Band work done in year 7 and group work from Autumn 2	Skills developed on Logic Pro X and keyboards	Band and group working skills
Builds towards	Developing piano and Music ICT skills and knowledge of development of Popular Music	Developing knowledge of pitch and rhythm notation develop percussion and guitar/ukulele skills and working as part of a group	Further developing Logic Pro X and keyboards skills and composition techniques	Developing group working skills and skills on a band instrument such as piano, guitar, bass, vocals or drum kit	Further developing Logic Pro X and keyboards skills and listening and evaluating skills	Developing group working skills and skills on a band instrument such as piano, guitar, bass, vocals or drum kit. Introduction to Saxophone











YEAR 9	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	Indian Music Explore the conventions of Indian Music and will learn how to compose your own.	In at the deep end Work in a group to rehearse and perform a piece of Popular Music.	Song writing Learn how to write a typical Popular Music song using Logic Pro X	Solo Performance Develop your skills at rehearsing and performing a solo on a instrument	Film Music Explore techniques and conventions used for composing Music for Film and T.V.	Class Concert Select to specialise in either performance or composition and prepare a piece in their chosen field.
Key concepts & skills	Learn about harmony and tonality, rhythm and melody; • Drone • Raga • Tala • Chaal • Pitch bend • Sharps and Flats • Ornaments e.g. trills and mordents Additional concepts > Instruments such as Sitar, Sarangi, Sarod, Tabla, Dhol, Tambura. > Improvisation > Typical structure e.g Alap and gat	Performance skills;	Popular song composition techniques; • Musical layers e.g. melody, bassline, harmony (chords) counter-melody and drum beat • Structure- Popular song forms • Music tech e.g. digital effects Additional concepts • Texture- e.g. homophonic, polyphonic, melody and accompaniment	Performance techniques and routine;	Compositional devices;	Composition skills; Melody Harmony Bassline Counter-melody Chords Rhythm Structure Texture Performance skills; Stage presence Dynamics Tone Range Soloing
Summative Assessment	Students will create their own piece of Indian Music using Music ICT	Students will perform as part of a Rock/Pop band.	Students will create their own song on Logic Pro X	Students will perform a solo on their instrument/voice.	Students will create music for a short film clip using Music ICT	Student will either compose their own piece of music or perform a piece of music on their own or in a group
Builds on	Other styles of Folk Music studied such as Greek, Palestinian, African and Salsa. Developing Music ICT skills	Rehearsal and performance skills as part of a group Skill on bass, guitar, vocals, piano or drum kit	Composition skills from studying Structure and Composition and knowledge of Popular Music traditions from Class Playlist	Performance and rehearsal skills on an instrument such as bass, guitar, drums, piano and vocals.	Composition skills developed in Structure and Composition and Songwriting	Performance/Composition skills developed across years 7-9
Builds towards	Developing ICT and composing skills- for songwriting and Film Music	Performance, rehearsal and instrumental skills for use in Solo Performance	Developing ICT and composing skills for Film Music	Performance/instrum ent skills for final performance in Summer 2 or further study as GCSE	Composition and Music ICT skills for GCSE/Music Technology	Performance/Composition at GCSE/Music Technology











YEAR 10 GCSE	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	General/bassline test Basic Music theory Solo Performance Composition techniques	Listening & Appraising: Conventions of Pop Introduction to Ensemble performance My first composition	Listening & Appraising: Film Music Improving my solo performance Developing my composition	Listening & Appraising: Rhythms of the World – African Drumming, Calypso & Samba Improving performances Developing my composition	Listening & Appraising: Rhythms of the World – Mediterranean Folk, Indian Classical & Bhangra Improving performances Developing my composition	Listening & Appraising: Revision and retrieval practice Performing solo and ensemble pieces Finishing composition 1
Key concepts & skills	Basic music theory such as; Tempo, dynamics, time signatures, rhythm notation and pitch notation Solo Performance skills Selecting appropriate songs, playing with accuracy and expression Composition skills Writing basslines, chord sequences, melodies and drum beats	Listening skills - Popular Music Listening and appraising Key performers and cultures, melody, harmony, timbre, rhythm, texture, structure, tempo and time signatures Ensemble Performance Skills Selecting songs, playing with accuracy and expression, rehearsing effectively, balance and awareness of others Composition skills Generating ideas, developing through contrast and repetition, recording and quantizing	Listening skills for Film; Leitmotif, ostinato, prominent composers, diegetic & non-diegetic sound, sound effects, orchestral/electronic instruments Ensemble Performance Skills Selecting appropriate songs, playing with accuracy, interpretation and expression, awareness of others, balance, stage presence and communication Composition skills Developing ideas, using common structures	Listening skills for World Music; Key performers and cultures, melody, harmony, timbre, rhythm, texture, structure, tempo and time signatures Solo Performance Skills Selecting appropriate songs, playing with accuracy, interpretation and expression, warm ups and exercises Composition skills Developing ideas, using common structures, acting on advice and making changes	Listening skills for World Music; Context, timbre, rhythm, texture, structure, tempo and time signatures Ensemble Performance Skills Selecting appropriate songs, playing with accuracy, interpretation, confidence, communication Composition skills Developing ideas, contrast and repetition, acting on advice and making changes	Performance > Stage presence, confidence, eye contact, style, communication Composition skills > Finishing a piece in a common structure, adding effects/ dynamics/articulation/prod ucing a score
Summative Assessment	Bassline listening test in week 1 Composition feedback Practice general listening exam questions Solo Performance	End of topic test Practice Exam Questions Composition feedback	End of topic Film Music test Practice Exam Questions Composition feedback Ensemble Performance	End of topic test and practice questions Composition feedback Solo Performance	End of topic test Practice Exam Questions Composition feedback Ensemble Performance	Practice Exam Questions Composition feedback Ensemble/Solo Performance PPE listening Exam
Builds on	Listening and composing skills learnt across KS3 Solo Performance from year 9	Pop Music studied & performed in all years Compositional skills from Autumn 1 Ensemble skills	Listening skills from Autumn 1 and Film Music studied in Year 9 Compositional skills from Autumn 1 and 2	African drumming knowledge from year 7 Salsa/Samba in Year 8 Compositional skills from Autumn and Spring terms	Compositional skills from Autumn and Spring terms Folk Music studied in year 8 Indian Classical and Bhangra studied in Year 9	Listening skills developed across the year Compositional skills across the year
Builds towards	Develop basic composition skills Learning basic key words/theory for listening exam Developing solo performance skills	Develop composition skills Learning key words words/theory for listening exam & general analytical skills	Develop composition skills Learning Film words/theory for listening exam Developing ensemble performance skills	Develop composition skills Learning African Drumming, and Samba words/theory for listening exam	Develop composition skills Learning words/theory for listening exam Developing Solo performance skills	Develop composition skills Learning Calpso words/theory for listening exam Developing ensemble/solo performance skills











Year 11 GCSE	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1
Key content	Listening & appraising: The Baroque Concerto Developing solo and ensemble performances based on feedback Introduction to 2 nd composition - set brief	Listening & appraising: The Classical & Romantic Concerto Developing solo and ensemble performances ready for performance	Listening & appraising: revision and retrieval Performance of solo/ensemble 2nd composition - set brief	Revision and retrieval Final adjustments to performances and compositions Completion of Composition 2	Revision and retrieval
Key concepts & skills	Listening skills for Concerto through Time Key composers and time periods, melody, harmony, timbre, rhythm, texture, structure, tempo and time signatures Performance Stage presence, confidence, eye contact, style, communication Composition skills Developing ideas from a set brief and given ideas	Listening skills for Concerto through Time Key composers and time periods, melody, harmony, timbre, rhythm, texture, structure, tempo and time signatures Ensemble/Solo Performance Skills Playing with accuracy, interpretation, confidence, communication Composition skills Developing ideas, contrast and repetition in a common structure.	Listening skills Exam technique, long answer questions, revision and retrieval techniques Ensemble/Solo Performance Skills Selecting appropriate songs, playing with accuracy, interpretation, confidence, communication Composition skills Developing ideas, contrast and repetition, acting on advice and making changes	Listening skills Exam technique, long answer questions, revision and retrieval techniques Performance Stage presence, confidence, eye contact, style, communication, acting on advice Composition skills Finishing a piece in a common structure, adding effects/dynamics/articulation/producing a score	Listening skills Exam technique, long answer questions, revision and retrieval techniques
Summative Assessment	End of topic Baroque Concerto test Practice Exam Questions Composition feedback end of half term Solo Performance-last week of half term	End of topic Concerto test Practice Exam Questions Composition feedback end of half term PPE listening Exam	Practice Exam Questions Composition feedback end of half term	PPE listening Exam Completed and recorded Solo, ensemble performances,	Final Exam
Builds on	Classical Music studied in Year 8 Composition/performance skills from year 10	Classical Music studied in Year 8 Compositional skills from Autumn 1 and year 10 Composition/performance skills from year 10	Composition/performance skills from year 10/11	Listening and appraising skills and composition and performance skills learnt throughout the course	Listening and theory work done throughout the course
Builds towards	Develop composition skills Learning Concerto key words/theory for listening exam Refining performance skills	Develop composition skills Learning Concerto words/theory for listening exam Refining performance skills	Develop composition skills Learning Film words/theory for listening exam Refining performance skills	Completing performance and compositions- developing skills for further study	Further study in Music





Year 12 Btec Music	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key content	 Unit 1: Basic Music Theory Unit 2: Legalities and Royalties Unit3/5: Band performance task- intro to group work 	 Unit 1: Basic Music Theory Unit 5: Session styles- Exploring Blues and Jazz Unit 3: Ensemble skills- working as a group Unit 2- Job Roles 	 Unit 1: Chords and melodies Basic Music Theory Unit 5: Session styles-Explore Soul & Motown Unit 3: ensemble skills-structuring a rehearsal Unit 2: Venues 	Unit 1: Chords and melodies Unit 5: Session styles-Exploring Reggae and Rock Unit 3: Ensemble skills-leading a rehearsal Unit 2: Organisations	 Unit 1: Chords and melodies Unit 5: Session styles-Exploring Lounge and Pop Unit 3: Ensemble skills-de-brief Unit 2: Budgeting 	 Unit 1: Chords and melodies Unit 5: Exploring Hip-Hop Unit 3: Mock Exam Unit 2: Exam Practice
Key concepts & skills	 Common signs and symbols for rhythm and pitch notation Royalties PRS/PPL Contracts Ensemble performance skills 	 Tempo, dynamics and expression notation Jazz Blues Group skills Performance, recording, management roles 	 Melodic devices Rhythm and pitch in alternate forms Soul Motown Rehearsal routines Live venues 	 Melodic Devices Reggae Rock Motown Leadership qualities Recording studios, Unions, Agencies and Record Labels 	 Harmonic devices Lounge Pop Structuring an evaluation of rehearsals and performances Writing a budget, funding, sourcing equipment 	 Harmonic devices Hip-Hop Rehearsing, performing and evaluating
Summative Assessment	Class performances Signs and symbols presentation-coursework Royalties/legalities practise questions	Class performances Signs and symbols presentation- coursework Job roles practise questions	Class performances Signs and symbols presentation- submitted 3 Melodic compositions- coursework Venue practise questions	Class performances 3 Melodic compositions- submitted Organisations practise questions	Class performances 3 chord compositions- coursework Budget practise questions	Unit 3- Mock Exam based on past paper 3 chord compositions- submitted Unit 2- Mock Exam
Builds on	Performance/composition/listeni ng skills learnt at GCSE/BTEC	 Unit 1: Basic Music Theory Unit 2: Legalities and Royalties Band performance task- intro to group work 	 Unit 1: Basic Music Theory Unit 5: Session styles- Exploring Blues and Jazz Unit 3: Ensemble skills- working as a group Unit 2- Job Roles 	 Unit 1: Chords & melodies Basic Music Theory Unit 5: Session styles- Exploring Soul and Motown Unit 3: ensemble skills- structuring a rehearsal Unit 2: Venues 	 Unit 1: Chords and melodies Unit 5: Session styles-Exploring Reggae and Rock Unit 3: Ensemble skills-leading a rehearsal Unit 2: Organisations 	 Unit 1: Chords and melodies Unit 5: Session styles-Exploring Lounge and Pop Unit 3: Ensemble skills- debrief Unit 2: Budgeting
Builds towards	Learning the signs and symbols used for music notation Developing ensemble performance and rehearsal skills	Developing knowledge and application of signs and symbols for music notation-used for arrangement task Developing ensemble performance and rehearsal skillsunit 3 Knowledge of music industry	Developing melody writing skills Developing ensemble performance and rehearsal skills Knowledge of music industry	Developing melody writing skills Developing ensemble performance and rehearsal skills Knowledge of music industry for Unit 2 Exam	Developing harmony writing skills Developing ensemble performance and rehearsal skills for Unit 3 exam Knowledge of music industry for Unit 2 Exam	Developing harmony writing skills Preparing answers for unit 2 exam Exam practise for unit 3 exam









Year 13 Btec Music	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1
Key content	Unit 1: Arranging Music Unit 3- Performance practice using past papers Unit 2- Exam Preparation/Mark schemes and exemplar answer s Unit 5: Session Styles- What defines a genre?	Unit 1: Arranging Music Unit 3- Performance practice using past papers Unit 2- Exam Preparation/Mark schemes and exemplar answers Unit 5: Session Styles- What defines a genre?	Unit 1: Arranging Music Unit 3 exam starts January- May Unit 2 actual exam- January	Unit 3- Recording and debrief of a rehearsal Unit 2- results released. Go through paper and mark scheme	Unit 3- Performances and debrief Unit 2- 2 nd chance at exam
Key concepts & skills	 Arranging music for a range of instruments Rehearsing Performing Debriefing Understanding mark schemes Model answers 	 Arranging music for a range of instruments Rehearsing Performing Debriefing Understanding mark schemes Model answers 	 Adding finishing touches to arrangements Creating a score Rehearsing Performing Debriefing Understanding mark schemes Model answers 	 Rehearsing Leading a rehearsal Evaluating and debriefing a rehearsal Understanding mark schemes and model answers 	 Performing Performance skills Debriefing Evaluating
Summative Assessment	Mock Unit 2/3 Questions taken from past papers Unit 5: Essay/presentation-coursework	Mock Unit 2/3 Questions taken from past papers Unit 5: Essay/presentation- submitted	Unit 2 and 3 actual Exams- January	Unit 3 Actual Exam	Unit 2 -Actual Exam- 2 nd attempt- new paper
Builds on	Composition skills from year 12 Rehearsal/performance skills from year 12 Unit 5: Session Styles- Knowledge of key genres	Arranging skills from Autumn 1 Rehearsal/performance skills from year 12/Autumn 1 Unit 5: Session Styles- Knowledge of key genres	Arranging skills from Autumn term and knowledge of signs and symbols studied in year 12 Rehearsal/performance/debrief skills Unit 2 Exam practise and knowledge of music industry	Rehearsal/performance/debrief skills Unit 2 Exam practise and knowledge of music industry	Unit 2 Exam practise, 1 st attempt and knowledge of music industry
Builds towards	Unit 2 and 3 exams	Unit 2 and 3 exams	Completing unit 2 exam Unit 3 exam	Completing unit 3 exams	Completing unit 2 exam







