

Music Curriculum Overview

Below is a curriculum overview, showing what is taught at each stage of the year.

| | Cycle 1 | Cycle 2 | Cycle 3 |
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| Year 7 | <p>Topic: Instrumental Skills</p> <p>Overview: Learning the basics of chords and melody using keyboards, guitars, bass and drums. Working on musical timing.</p> <p>Assessment Week: Performing a final piece to the teacher</p> | <p>Topic: Chords and AABA pentatonic composition</p> <p>Overview: Understanding how chords are constructed and what a pentatonic scale is and how to use one. Composing own music and inputting this to a DAW on the computers.</p> <p>Assessment Week: Sharing final compositions for feedback.</p> | <p>Topic: Film Music and Music Tech</p> <p>Overview: Exploring film music and its devices such as leitmotifs and underscoring. Then composing own music to fit a film clip using loops and MIDI input.</p> <p>Assessment Week: Sharing final compositions for feedback.</p> |

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| Year 8 | <p>Topic: 4 chord songs and Music technology</p> <p>Overview: Understanding the 4 chord trick and how pop songs utilise it. Composing own 4 chord pop songs using DAW and audio sampling.</p> <p>Assessment Week: Sharing final compositions for feedback.</p> | <p>Topic: Ensemble skills using popular repertoire</p> <p>Overview: Understanding how to work as an ensemble and use lead sheets. Developing instrumental skills and timing skills. Using interpretation to create a more unique version of the chosen repertoire.</p> <p>Assessment Week: Sharing final performances for feedback.</p> | <p>Topic: Parody song writing</p> <p>Overview: Recapping the understanding and building of chord sequences. Including writing lyrics and a hook to a given song. The essence of parody and appropriateness.</p> <p>Assessment Week: Sharing final compositions for feedback.</p> |

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| Year 9 | <p>Topic: Music through the decades</p> <p>Overview: Looking at Music from 1950 to the 2000s. Exploring the key historic information from these decades and also the key genres and their musical characteristics. Composing and performing in these genres stylistically and recreating them as close to the originals as possible.</p> <p>Assessment Week: Test about the different genres.</p> | <p>Topic: AABA composition and My Instrument.</p> <p>Overview: Exploring Music theory to create a composition using an AABA structure that uses a chord sequence and a pentatonic melody. Inputting and realising these using Music technology. Then exploring solo performance and understanding what makes good practice.</p> <p>Assessment Week: Sharing compositions and a short solo performance.</p> | <p>Topic: The Music Industry and World Music</p> <p>Overview: Beginning to explore the nuts and bolts of the Music industry. Including venues, their uses, job roles and the various different umbrella terms to describe the varying organisations within the industry. Exploring music from Africa, India, Java and Bali, Jamaica, Spain and Brazil.</p> <p>Assessment Week: Quizzes on the industry and on World Music.</p> |

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| Year 10 | <p>Topic: Song writing and the Music Industry</p> <p>Overview: Recapping the Music theory required to write effective songs. Using a DAW to input and realise the song ideas. A recap of Music Industry knowledge and beginning to identify and respond to exam questions.</p> <p>Assessment Week: Music industry quiz and sharing final compositions for feedback.</p> | <p>Topic: Completing unit 4 (Introducing Music Composition) or unit 7 (Introducing Music Sequencing)</p> <p>Overview: During this cycle students will complete their coursework to a given assignment brief.</p> | <p>Topic: Classical Music and the Music Industry</p> <p>Overview: Exploring the eras of classical music (Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic and 20th Century). Performing and composing in these styles. Recapping the Music industry and looking more in depth at health and safety and given briefs (weighing up the pros and cons of a given situation).</p> <p>Assessment Week: Music Industry quiz and sharing their performances from the Classical work.</p> |

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| Year 11 | <p>Topic: Completing unit 2 (Managing a Music product) and revising the Music Industry.</p> <p>Overview: During this cycle students will complete the unit 2 coursework to the given brief. Students will also be practicing exam questions for their Unit 1 (The Music Industry) exam in January.</p> <p>Assessment Week: Mock exam.</p> | <p>Topic: Completing unit 5 (Introducing Music Performance) or 6 (Introducing Music Recording).</p> <p>Overview: During this cycle students will complete their coursework to the given assignment brief.</p> | |

