

Year 8 Music

The Year 8 Music curriculum is designed to develop and improve key skills. The curriculum has a number of short half-term units exploring aspects of performance, composition and appraising music. This is done through a variety of mediums and instruments including vocal, keyboard, guitar and drum based work, as well as computer-based music software (Cubase and Sibelius). Lessons are updated year-on-year to match current trends in contemporary musicians and their music. Each unit has a specific focus while all aspects of the National Curriculum are developed spirally giving students experience and mastery of skills in music.

Methods of deepening and securing knowledge:

Retrieval practice	Reference back to previous techniques to develop ideas and use previously taught skills.
Elaboration	Teaching of elements to support deeper understanding and exploration.
Concrete examples	Exemplar music with reference to 'The Great Composers' and modern classics.

	Autumn term 1	Autumn term 2	Spring term 1	Spring term 2	Summer term 1	Summer term 2
Topic(s)	Hooks and Riffs: - Ostinato, Riffs, melodic and verbal riffs, repetition, texture, chords and bassline, bass and treble clef	Offbeat! - Syncopation, triplets, riffs, texture, layers, polyphony, harmony and chords	Variations: - Ground bass, major and minor, modes, pedal notes, melodic decoration, ornamentation, sequence, inversion, counter melody, augmentation and diminution	Feeling the Blues and All That Jazz: - 12 Bar Blues, chord sequence, improvisation, AAB structure, primary chords I IV V, riffs, fills, solos, blues scale, swing/swung rhythms, improvisation, ostinato, riffs, frontline, rhythm section, texture and layers, scat singing, call and response, modal jazz	All About The Bass: - Bass clef, texture of bass lines, patterns, Hip Hop, dance music, walking bass, Rock 'n' Roll	Saharan Sounds: - Djembe performance, bass, slap, tone, improvisation, cycle and polyrhythms, cross-rhythms, call and response, syncopation, master drummer

Assessment	Perform/compose/ appraise	Perform/appraise	Compose/perform/ appraise	Perform/compose /appraise	Perform/appraise	Compose/ perform/appraise
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Independent Learning:

Students are set a topic-specific reading independent learning in each half-term. This gives background and context to the practical work in class. This is delivered via GoogleClassroom and students have the opportunity to reflect and address any misconceptions.

Students are also set Independent Learning specific to their practical skill, for instance, practice on an instrument, appraise a piece of music, and listen to compositions for inspiration. This is completed at different points throughout each topic.