



KS4 Curriculum Overview - Music

Your child will learn about music from a range of genres from the seventeenth century to the present day, develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of performance, composition, listening and analysing during each half term.

Term	Year 10	Year 11
Autumn 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set works, beginning with Killer Queen then moving on to Star Wars. Composition related to the set works (rock song composition). Individual performance practice (outside of classroom lessons). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elements of music detail, including tonality, structure and harmony. Completion of free composition in lessons. Solo performance (formal assessment) in October.
Autumn 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set works, continuing Star Wars then moving on to Bach and Afro-Celt Sound System. Compositions related to the set works (fanfare and film-based composition, then fugue composition). One performance assessment lesson in the autumn term, alongside individual performance practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elements of music detail, including instrumentation, texture, melody and rhythm. Completion of free composition in lessons, due by the end of term in December (including an accompanying write-up for students completing their composition using Cubase). Students to prepare their ensemble performances ready for the end of the spring term.
Spring 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set works, continuing Afro-Celt Sound System, then Purcell, Beethoven and starting Wicked. Compositions related to the set works (minuet composition). Individual performance practice (outside of classroom lessons). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation for and completion of year 11 spring term mock exam. Completion of composition to an exam board brief in lessons. Students to prepare their ensemble performances ready for the end of the spring term.
Spring 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set works, continuing Wicked, then Samba em Preludio. First longer composition: composing film music to accompany a video. One performance assessment lesson in the spring term, alongside individual performance practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wider listening and dictation more detailed preparation and practice. Completion of composition to an exam board brief in lessons, due by the end of this term in March/April (including an accompanying write-up for students completing their composition using Cubase). Ensemble performance (formal assessment) before Easter.
Summer 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to wider listening, then end of year 10 assessment planning. One performance assessment lesson in the Spring term, alongside individual performance practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exam preparation, revision and practice. All coursework completed and submitted to the exam board by this point.
Summer 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued preparation for end of year 10 assessment, then completion of a GCSE paper in lessons. Introduction to minimalism and practice GCSE composition in that style. Students to prepare their solo performances ready for the autumn term. 	GCSE Public Examinations



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Through the study of music your child will be expected to develop the following knowledge, skills and understanding:

Performance	Composition	Listening & Analysing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accuracy, fluency, technical control and expression in musical performance. • Confidence and resilience when things do not go to plan and self-reflection to improve future performances. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of musical elements and how these contribute to a successful composition. • Development of ideas to create a fluent and coherent composition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musical detail regarding the 8 set works. • Musical elements and how these can be applied to the study of set works and unfamiliar listening. • Melodic and rhythmic dictation. • Analysis of set works and unfamiliar pieces through extended written responses.

Parents can support their child by encouraging them to practice their instrument or singing for 20 minutes every day, encouraging them to come to music department extra-curricular ensembles and supporting by attending their performances and encouraging regular revisiting of in-class material to support revision and consolidating.