



Curriculum Plan Music



Year 10	Golden Threads: Performance – Students must be able to perform live music both as a soloist and a group performer Composition – Students must learn how to develop musical ideas, including extending and manipulating musical ideas, and compose music that is musically convincing through two compositions. One must be in response to an externally set brief and the other a free composition. Understanding music - students will appraise, develop and demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical context and musical languages.				Enrichment: Music extra curricular clubs offered through the week in a variety of settings. Composition clinics and performance opportunities throughout the year		Review and evaluation: Summer 2025
	Topics	Assessment	Substantive Knowledge	Disciplinary Knowledge	Misconceptions	Key Vocabulary	Knowledge tracking
Term 1	Understanding music Understanding notation and basic musical harmony	Theory test at the end of term Solo performance in Last week of term	- Musical notation - Degrees of the scale (major and minor) - Basic Harmonic and tonal concepts (cadences, chord names etc) - Performance etiquette - Performance mark scheme	Pupils will show their understanding of the substantive concepts in both the paper theory test and the (deep marked) musical performance, which will be recorded)	Performance is only for people that have private music lessons. GCSE music is not just for students who are already musicians.	Major Minor Scale Tonality Cadences (perfect etc) Note names (crochet etc)	Prior learning: KS3 curriculum focussed on substantive notation knowledge spiralled throughout Y&8 and 9. Future learning: Performance skills (30% final grade), music theory to be applied to AOS in year 11
	Performance Working on a solo performance	Weekly targeted homework – in homework booklets to reinforce understanding					
Term 2	Understanding music Keywords and concepts for: Rhythm Tempo Markings Timbre Dynamics Textures Structures	Group performance in Last week of term Weekly targeted homework – in homework booklets to reinforce understanding	- Performance mark scheme and expectations - Group Performance etiquette - Keywords for Rhythm Tempo Markings Timbre Dynamics Textures Structures	Pupils will show their understanding of the substantive concepts during (deep marked) musical performance, which will be recorded. This will be a collaborative group performance rather than a solo.	Performance is only for people that have private music lessons. GCSE music is not just for students who are already musicians.	Key vocabulary words relating to the substantive knowledge. e.g. Dynamics (forte, piano, mezzo, crescendo, diminuendo etc)	Prior learning: KS3 curriculum focussed on substantive notation knowledge spiralled throughout Y&8 and 9. Future learning: Performance skills (30% final grade), music theory to be applied to AOS in year 11
	Performance Working on a group performance						
Term 3	Composing music. Students will begin composing their first piece of coursework – the free composition with the internal hand in date to be the Easter holidays.	Internal assessment in Week 2/3 – full GCSE listening paper - section A (listening) Weekly targeted homework – in homework booklets to reinforce understanding	- Keywords for Melody Rhythm Time Signatures - Exam setup and unique considerations for a music exam. - Mark scheme and application for the free composition.	Pupils will show their understanding of the compositional process by forming initial ideas and applying the AQA mark scheme to these ideas.	GCSE music is not just for students who are already musicians. I can't compose music	Key vocabulary words relating to the substantive knowledge. e.g. melody (syllabic, melismatic, conjunct, disjunct etc) and intervals	Prior learning: T1-4 designed to learn T3 vocabulary in order to apply to AOS1 Future learning: Composing skills (30% final grade), music theory to be applied to AOS in year 11
	Understanding music Keywords and concepts for: Melody Rhythm Time Signatures						



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Term 4	Composing music. Students to continue composing their first piece of coursework – the free composition with the internal hand in date to be the Easter holidays.	Initial hand in of GCSE free composition in final week (graded)	- Keywords for western classical repertoire, including but limited to the musical elements in their entirety - Mark scheme and application for the free composition.	Pupils will demonstrate their understanding of key terms and principles of western classical music through exam style listening questions. Homework tasks look to reinforce classroom learning with targeted tasks.	Classical music is boring GCSE music is not just for students who are already musicians. Music can be for everyone. I can't compose music	Baroque Choral Opera Classical Romantic Symphony Concerto Sonata Dance forms Romantic	Prior learning: T1-4 designed to learn T3 vocabulary in order to apply to AOS1 Future learning: Composing skills (30% final grade), music theory to be applied to AOS in year 11
	Understanding music Area of study 1 – Western classical music until 1900	Weekly targeted homework – in homework booklets to reinforce understanding					
	Composing music. Students to continue composing their first piece of coursework – the free composition with the final hand in date to be the Summer break.	Weekly targeted homework – in homework booklets to reinforce understanding Full GCSE section A mock with Mozart section B analysis question	- Analysis terms for the Beethoven symphony – broken down into elemental areas – using the 'Dr Smith' method. - Exam setup and unique considerations for a music exam. - Mark scheme and application for the free composition.	Pupils will analyse a piece of Beethoven, set by the exam board, and be able to bring prior T1-4 learning to the fore when answering exam questions based on this piece.	Classical music is boring GCSE music is not just for students who are already musicians. Music can be for everyone. I can't compose music	Classical Symphony Sonata form - EXPOSITION - DEVELOPMENT - RECAPITULATION Tonality Instrumentation Harmony Melody Texture Rhythm	Prior learning: T1-4 designed to learn T5 vocabulary in order to apply to AOS1 Future learning: Composing skills (30% final grade), music theory to be applied to AOS in year 11
Term 5	Composing music. Students to continue composing their first piece of coursework – the free composition with the final hand in date to be the Summer break.	Final GCSE free composition hand in	- Keywords for popular music repertoire, including but limited to the musical elements in their entirety - Mark scheme and application for the free composition.	Pupils will demonstrate their understanding of key terms and principles of popular music through exam style listening questions. Homework tasks look to reinforce classroom learning with targeted tasks.	Pop music is just music from today's artists. Pop music is simple can't compose music	Voices and types Instruments of 'pop' Musical genres throughout the 1960s+ Musical theatre TV and film music Computer game music	Prior learning: T1-4 designed to learn T3 vocabulary in order to apply to AOS1 Future learning: Composing skills (30% final grade), music theory to be applied to AOS in year 11
	Understanding music Area of study 1 – Set work - Beethoven						
	Composing music. Students to continue composing their first piece of coursework – the free composition with the final hand in date to be the Summer break.	Weekly targeted homework – in homework booklets to reinforce understanding GCSE section A questions based around popular music.					
	Understanding music Area of study 2 – Popular music						
Term 6							