Subject: Music Year 7

Kay Stage 3 Curriculum Plan

Year: 2026-2027

Department Information:

The Music Department is part of the larger Creative Arts Faculty. The department is led by the Head of Music, Mr S Forster with the support of the Associate Senior Leader for Creative Arts, Ms N Killick. It is a busy department with the aim to instill a love of music in every student though a relaxed yet challenging atmosphere. Students are given every opportunity to perform and create both in the classroom and during free time. Music has a high profile within the school community and has an increasing number opting for GCSE Music and into Yr12. We work closely with music provider Musicscool to offer high quality instrumental tuition to support the development of students.

Curriculum aims and intent:

The music curriculum offers a broad and engaging curriculum with the aim to go above and beyond the requirements of the National Curriculum for music.

By the end of Year 7 students will:

- Explain the use of the musical elements through listening and how they are used within performance.
- Understand the use of traditional notation of the treble and bass clef.
- Explore compositional techniques with a focus on rhythm.

These will be explored with the use of three fertile questions which will shape the learning of every student.

1. What are the ingredients of music?
2. Why is rhythm an essential ingredient to making a piece of music?
3. How do composers use notation to communicate with the performer?

Resources used to support learning:

BBC Bitesize – range of topics
https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmsvr82
Spotify – create own playlists
https://open.spotify.com/
Elemental - listening and home learning exercises
https://elementalmusic.app/
BandLab - Create your own music
http://www.bandlab.com

Home Learning:

Home learning will be set once a fortnight and will include a range of short projects, listening tasks and online music theory tasks. These will be linked to the current learning in lessons.

Assessment:

Students will be assessed after each question has been answered. Each assessment will include a written assessment based on the listening skills they have developed over time and a performance assessment.

Students will be expected to perform in small groups and solo to support building confidence and creating well rounded musicians.

How parents can help their child:

- Talk with your child about music that you enjoy.
- Why you like it and what emotion it has for you.
- Listen to music they are listening to and ask them question about it. Why do they like it? What is it about?
- Expose to live music where possible.

If possible, invest in instrumental lessons to support learning outside the classroom.

Term	Summary of work being covered	Knowledge, Understanding and skills assessed	How the work is assessed	Career Links
1	What are the ingredients of music?	Students will develop an understanding of the musical elements and how they work together. Students will explore the musical elements through singing and composing. They will develop graphic notation and how music can be written down in a number of ways.	1. Performance of a vocal piece 2. A short composition and small group performance of a piece using graphic notation 3. Listening assessment	Composer Musicologist Music therapist Public Speaking
2				
3	Is rhythm an essential ingredient to making a piece of music?	Students will develop an understanding of how rhythms can work together. They will be introduced to rhythm notation. They will be exposed to syncopation, cross-rhythms, polyrhythms and dotted rhythms.	1 .Djembe performances 2. Performances of small group compositions comprising of written rhythmic notation 3. Listening assessemnt	Ethnomusicologist Composer Teamwork
4				
5	How do composers use notation to communicate with the performer?	Through the development of rhythm notation, students will be introduced to pitch notation. This will link back to term one with a short singing task where students are given the notations to support learning. Students will develop their skills by performing melodies on the keyboard.	1. Performance of a melody on the keyboard 2. Listening assessment	Performer Jobs in communication Public Speaking
6				