



Curriculum Overview

Curriculum Area: Music Year: 8

Year 8 Curriculum:

Rotation 1: Fusion

During Fusion, we will look at a variety of different percussion music including samba and African drumming. Pupils will understand the heritage of these genres and apply some of the techniques used on percussion instruments. Pupils will develop their ensemble skills by listening and creating their own performance during lessons. They will look at some of the elements of music such as texture and rhythm, in detail and apply these to their performances.

Focused composers/pieces:

- Samba de Janeiro
- Mas Que Nada

Rotation 2: Four Chords

Pupils will begin to look at different chord types and how they are used throughout different genres including Blues & Jazz, Reggae and Pop music. Pupils will revisit their keyboard skills in this unit to play major and minor triads on the keyboard. Lyrics that are used in Reggae music will be a focus to help understand the heritage of the music and its influences. Pupils will be assessed on their ability to play stock chord progressions from different genres and popular riffs that are used throughout.

Focused composers/pieces:

- Three Little Birds – Bob Marley
- In the Mood – Glen Millar

Links to National Curriculum

By the end of Key Stage 3 (Year 9), pupils will have:

- gained an **aural knowledge** of some of the great musical output of human civilisation
- engaged with creative processes through **improvisation** and **composition**
- built an understanding of how **musical elements** work and discussed how these interact with subjective and objective models of musical meaning
- developed knowledge of a wider range of notes and improved their **fluency in music notation**. Notation can grant access to a lifelong passion for music making if this skill is nurtured.

Knowledge and understanding of this curriculum will be assessed by:

Whole class performances
Individual performances
Listening quizzes
Knowledge checks

Powerful Knowledge/Cultural Capital Opportunities

Pupils will develop a deeper understanding of the music they perform by learning to listen critically, to not only expand their musical horizons but also gain a deeper understanding of how music is constructed and the impact it can have on the listener. Listening to a broad range of music also helps develop other areas of musical activity, including composing and performing. Composing is a core element of the music curriculum. It gives pupils a chance to create their own music and express themselves. As such it can be a powerful lever for engaging pupils in curriculum music. Co-curricular music enables pupils to make substantial progress as instrumentalists and singers, soloists and ensemble members, and makes a significant impact upon the development of pupils' musical identity.