

Music

Key Stage 3 & 4 Curriculum Information

Subject Contacts: Mrs J Turner (Head of Music)

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As a department, we believe music is for everyone, regardless of age, or ability. It is a universal language that aids communication, increases confidence and brings people together.

Key Stage 3

As a department, we believe in teaching all units as practically as possible. Years 7 and 8 Schemes of Learning are divided into eleven half termly units, which will give our students every opportunity to grow in confidence, develop long lasting skills and demonstrate creativity.

The key skills taught are Performance (both solo and ensemble), Composition and Listening and Appraising. These skills will be taught in readiness for continuing into GCSE if students find this an avenue they wish to take. A range of styles will be taught and students will be encouraged to have an open mind about all music explored.

Units covered will include: Rhythm, Keyboard Skills, Film Music, Ukulele Skills, Guitar Skills, Band Work, World Music and Song Writing.

Key Stage 4

Our AQA GCSE course concentrates on the same three units as at KS3; Performing music, Composing music and Listening/Understanding music.

Students who opt to follow the course should be open minded to a variety of music, from Classical and Musical theatre, to Popular and World Music. This course would particularly suit students who can play an instrument or sing to a reasonable standard.

Students should be prepared to persevere, perform with others and accept constructive criticism and feedback on how to improve. Above all, we strive to increase confidence, show passion and enjoyment of music and give our students many opportunities to perform, either to peers or to the public.

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Assessment:

Unit 1: Listening and Understanding, is 40% of the course, which is externally assessed through a 1 hour 30 minutes Listening Exam, answering questions about the music being played.

Unit 2: Performing Music, is 30% of the course and is internally assessed.

Unit 3: Composing Music, is 30% of the course and is internally assessed.

Progression:

Music will help to develop transferrable and possibly lifelong skills that can be of advantage in many different careers. The course can also lead onto Further and Higher Education study into Music and Music Technology as well as other creative media topics.

