

Performing Arts - Music Year 7 Curriculum Overview

What is the Year 7 Music curriculum aiming to achieve?		
What do we want our Year 7 musicians to be like?	How are we building on prior learning?	How can parents/carers support their child's learning?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative • Inspired, curious and open-minded • Having a secure foundation of musical knowledge based on the musical elements • Resilient and increasingly self-confident • Proud 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building on skills of pitch and rhythm • Formalising awareness and understanding of musical elements • Continuing to encourage practical engagement both individually and as part of a group/ensemble 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening to music and encouraging breadth of listening • Supporting practice • Encouraging them to engage in school's extracurricular or instrumental/vocal lessons • Encouraging active and practical participation in performance opportunities

How are we organising the Year 7 Music curriculum?						
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topics	Keyboard trainers <i>Learning keyboard technique along with reading traditional notation</i>	Ukulele - The first 4 chords <i>Learning ukulele technique, reading chord diagrams in tab, developing ensemble skills and learning to practise</i>	Musical theatre <i>Continuing to develop ensemble skills using voices and developing multitasking skills with movement</i>	Music to tell a story <i>Learning how music can tell a story using Peter and the Wolf as a case study to compose a new one</i>	African drumming <i>Continuing development of rhythm reading, focusing on African drumming, singing and the related cultural traditions</i>	Music and media – Cartoon <i>Continuing to develop compositional skills and the knowledge gained on instrument stereotypes before applying it to cartoon music</i>
Threshold Concepts	Performing, Composing, Listening, Appraising These threshold concepts are fundamental to the study of Music and underpin all the practical learning that pupils will engage with throughout Key Stage 3. These are focused on the Elements of Music.					
Skills	Learning the fundamentals of rhythm, pitch and the piano	Applying skills learned in term one to an ensemble context	Further developing notation reading and vocal skills before combining with moving in time	Developing use of music software, awareness of orchestral instruments and composition skills	Focusing back on rhythm and rhythmic notation in the context of West African drumming	Continuing use of music software and orchestral instruments and developing use of media music techniques
Enrichment within the curriculum	All students have the opportunity to develop their performance skills on a wide variety of instruments, including the voice, keyboards, ukulele, guitar and percussion, including African drums. Students can also explore how Music Technology can further their musical knowledge and understanding. Students may, if they wish, take up instrumental lessons outside of lesson time to learn an instrument of their choice.					
Cross curricular links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links with Numeracy and Maths – counting beats • Links with Literacy, Languages and English – spelling and meanings of key musical vocabulary, storytelling • Links with Art, History and Geography – Music of Africa and music of other cultures • Links with Science – pitch • Links with performing arts and dance – Musical Theatre 					
Extra-curricular opportunities	Students have the opportunity to take part in various extra-curricular clubs throughout the week. The Year 7 choir focuses on preparing for the Young Voices event. The all-years choir works towards the Carol Service, Gotta Sing, and a summer performance. The school production is an exciting opportunity for those interested in acting and theatre. The Year 7 String Ensemble also prepares for the Carol Service, and the School of Rock is open to all years. These clubs are open to all levels of ability, but enthusiasm is essential! Each year, we hold a Carol Service at Pershore Abbey, and we hope all Year 7 pupils will participate as part of a mass choir. We also encourage pupils to form their own ensembles, which will be supported by Music department staff where possible.					

What are the intended outcomes of the Year 7 Music curriculum?						
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Opportunities to show	Performance & composition assessment (ind/grp); Listening tests					

progress (Assessments)	
Impact on personal development (SMSC)	Students learn to develop resilience and determination through the challenge of performing and composing work, and grow in confidence through performance assessments which are conducted in an encouraging and supportive classroom environment that celebrates achievement. Students develop their group work skills and learn how to collaborate, lead others and be part of a bigger ensemble.
Preparation for the next stage of education	Students can study Music at GCSE and Key Stage 5 level, as well as taking graded exams if they have instrument or vocal tuition. Music develops a huge number of highly valuable transferrable skills which are well-regarded in many spheres; it promotes teamwork, creativity, analysis, listening, perseverance and builds confidence in young people.