

What are the aims and intentions of this curriculum?

The aim of our KS3 curriculum is to encourage and inspire students into having a life-long appreciation of music. Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high- quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical canon.

Term	Topics	Knowledge and key terms	Skills developed	Assessment
Autumn 1	Singing	<p>Students will learn to sing a song as a group. They will learn some basic notation and musical dynamics.</p> <p><u>Key terms</u> Melody, Harmony, solo, dynamics, crescendo, diminuendo, choir (SATB), dotted rhythm, triplet, peer learning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensemble skills- learning to work in groups of varying sizes (pair, group and whole class). Basic Musicianship skills - Learning to sing 3 songs (a popular song, musical song and folk song). Some students will perform in the Open Evening. Performance skills - Performing with an awareness of different parts (duet, unison, 3-part harmony). 	Ensemble performance of piece of relevant music.
Autumn 2	Elements of music	<p>Students will learn about the building blocks that music is made out of and how they are used together.</p> <p><u>Key Terms</u> Tempo, Pitch, dynamics, duration, structure, texture, timbre, silence,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General musicianship skills - Learning about and using the different elements of music (tempo, dynamics, pitch etc). Instrumental and Rhythm skills - Use of percussion instruments to create a piece of music. Use of musical notes and rests. 	Listening and identification of the elements of music and ensemble performance.
Spring 1	Instruments of the orchestra	<p>Students will learn about the instrument groups that make up an orchestra and some basic terms for orchestral music.</p> <p><u>Key Terms</u> Strings, woodwind, brass, percussion, pitch Timbre, performance, Rehearsal, theme, variations, rhythm.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening and appraisal skills -Study of Western Classical music traditions Music theory skills - Learning about structure and form (Binary, Ternary and Rondo Form). Notations skills - Learning how to read music using staff notation. Performance and composition skills - Performing Frere Jacques and creating a theme and variation piece. 	Ensemble performance of 'Variations on frère Jacques'.

Spring 2	Chinese Music	<p>Students will learn about some of the traditional folk music from china and the theory behind it.</p> <p><u>Key Terms</u> Pentatonic Scale, black notes, major scale, minor, scale, improvisation, drone, sharps, flats, enharmonic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to read music using staff notation. • Performance skills - Performing a Chinese song using the keyboard and percussion instruments. 	Ensemble performance of the 'China Town' and group composition using the pentatonic scale.
Summer 1	Rock School	<p>Students will learn how to work together in a band setting to perform a piece of rock music.</p> <p><u>Key terms</u> Chord sequence, Guitar, Bass guitar, Drum kit,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance skills - Learning to perform a modern song- 'Shake It Off' as small class bands. • Instrumental skills - Students learn to play chords using the keyboard, guitar, ukulele and bass guitar. Some learn the drum kit. 	Ensemble performance as part of a rock band.