



Half Term 6 – Programme Music

You will develop your knowledge of how music can be used to describe a variety of events, scenes, atmospheres and stories. You will create your own descriptive compositions using music technology.

Half Term 5 – Escape from the Vernacular

Having spent the past few terms learning how music is put together, this topic will encourage you to throw the rule book out the window and create music that pushes boundaries in every respect.

Half Term 4 – Rap and Hip Hop

You will develop your songwriting skills through rap and hip hop – how this genre developed, some key repertoire and its relevance in today's society. You will also develop your teamwork and lyric writing skills.

Half Term 3 – The Orchestra

You will develop your knowledge of orchestral instruments, the different timbres they produce, and some key orchestral repertoire. You will further develop your keyboard skills.

Half Term 2 – Performance Skills

You will develop your ability to perform music on a selection of instruments through two tasks, the first being the composition of a waltz, and the second being a performance of a pop song.

Half Term 1 – Elements of Music

You will develop knowledge of all the key elements of music, and how pieces of music are created when they are put together. You will also start to develop your keyboard skills by playing a basic piece.

YEAR

7



Half Term 6 – Music and Media

You will develop knowledge of how music is used to great effect in advertising, and have the opportunity to compose your own 'jingle' and backing music to a TV advert using music technology.

Half Term 5 – Samba

This entirely practical topic will allow you to get hands-on experience of playing some of the key instruments of samba, as well as developing your knowledge of the genre and your ensemble skills through whole-class performances.

Half Term 4 – Blues

You will develop your knowledge of this very important genre in music history, and its role in the progression of music. You will develop your keyboard skills by learning how to play the key elements of the 12-bar blues.

Half Term 3 – World Improvisation

You will develop your knowledge of three styles of music from around the world, India, China and Trinidad, and how to use scales from these countries to improvise according to their distinct styles of music using music technology.

Half Term 2 – Vocal Techniques

You will learn how your voice can be used to great effect to produce a variety of different sounds, as well as developing your singing ability. You will have the opportunity to create your own 'acapella' version of a pop song of your choice.

Half Term 1 – Reggae

You will learn the key characteristics of this genre, as well of some of the key artists and repertoire. You will have the opportunity to play some existing Reggae songs, as well as writing your own and performing it to the class.

YEAR

8



Half Term 6 – Film Music

You will assume the role of a film music composer, writing an original soundtrack for a short segment of a film using music technology. Along the way, you will learn about all the key techniques and terminology related to film music.

Half Term 5 – African Drumming

Another entirely practical topic, you will develop your percussion skills using authentic African instruments and whole-class performances, whilst broadening your knowledge of world music and its importance to millions of different people.

Half Term 4 – Protest Songs

Through developing your songwriting skills, you will write a song on a theme that matters to you, and explore a number of songs that have been written over the years to raise awareness of important issues.

Half Term 3 – Dance Remix

You will assume the role of a music producer, tasked with creating a remix of a modern pop song. You will develop your music technology skills and learn a variety of different techniques enabling you to create an authentic and exciting remix.

Half Term 2 – Cover Versions

You will have the opportunity to create your own cover version of a pop song of your choice in groups, using a variety of different instruments. You will use your musical skills in order to make your piece innovative and original.

Half Term 1 – Keyboard Skills

You will develop your keyboard skills using innovative technology, that enables you to learn pop songs without using traditional notation. You will develop your performance skills through regular performing opportunities.

YEAR

9



Half Term 6

Students will finish their study of Conventions of Pop, looking at Pop Ballads of the 70s, 80s and 90s and Solo Artists from the 90s to present, and sit their end of unit assessment. They will finish their free composition first draft and ensure their solo performance in a good position.

Half Term 5

Students will begin the half term by sitting their Year 10 PPE, based on the Concerto Through Time. They will then begin the next Area of Study, Conventions of Pop, focusing on Rock 'n' Roll of the 50s and 60s and Rock Anthems of the 70s and 80s.

Half Term 4

Students will continue with The Concerto Through Time, now focusing on the Classical and Romantic periods. They will also continue with their free composition, and practising their solo instrument. Ensemble performance will be re-visited.

Half Term 3

Students will begin their first proper GCSE Area of Study – The Concerto Through Time, with a focus on the Baroque Concerto. They will sit their first internal written assessment, based on the appraising content covered in the Autumn term and will start their free composition first draft.

Half Term 2

Students will continue their study of the key elements of music below, refining further into the key terminology of how these elements can be described. There will also be a focus on ensemble work, to improve students' performing confidence and skill.

Half Term 1

Students will be introduced to the key elements of music that form the backbone of the appraising aspect of the GCSE – melody, articulation, dynamics, texture, structure, harmony, instrumentation, rhythm, tonality, timbre and tempo.

YEAR

10



Half Term 6

Students will sit the appraising examination, which is the final 40% of the GCSE, centred on the four Areas of Study learned throughout the course – The Concerto Through Time, Conventions of Pop, Rhythms of the World and Film Music.

Half Term 5

This half term is dedicated to revision of the remaining 40% of the course – the appraising exam. Students will practice many exam-style questions on the four areas of study and receive detailed exam preparation, before they depart for study leave.

Half Term 4

This half term is entirely dedicated to coursework, which is worth 60% of the GCSE – students will need to complete their free and brief compositions (including write-ups), as well as ensure both their performances are recorded.

Half Term 3

Students will begin and finish studying the final Area of Study, Film Music, and sit the end of unit assessment on this topic. They will begin the process of recording their solo and ensemble performances, and begin the write-ups for their compositions.

Half Term 2

Students will finish studying Rhythms of the World, focusing on the music of Africa and South America, and sit an end of unit assessment. They will continue composing to a brief and refining their performance skills, and finally will sit their Year 11 PPE.

Half Term 1

Students will begin their third Area of Study, Rhythms of the World, focusing on the music of India, Arabia and the Mediterranean. They will begin their composition to a set brief, and continue refining their solo and ensemble performance skills.

YEAR

11