

Y7 Music

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Curriculum Intent:

Key Principles and Aims:

At Forge Valley School, the Music Department endeavours to ignite our students' passion for the Music and cultivate creativity. We aim to inspire a love of learning through a curriculum that allows students the freedom to explore their creativity, whilst developing an extensive practical skillset, and a deep and broad theoretical understanding of Music. The curriculum is designed to engage and grip the interest of students and lessons are taught by subject specialists who love their subject and strive for the best outcomes for all students. From their first Music lesson in Year 7, students are encouraged to create and refine performance work to the highest standard and additionally, develop the crucial skills of analysing and evaluating their own work and the work of others; skills our students need to be successful at GCSE and beyond.

The Music Department is committed to developing students' Cultural Capital through a curriculum that introduces and explores the vast world of Music and provides them with opportunities and experiences that span beyond classroom through extra-curricular opportunities and industry standard workshops. The curriculum is one which allows all students to achieve their potential; carefully considered sequences of lessons and teacher chosen working groups ensure that the curriculum is inclusive to the needs of all students and they are given a platform to meet their potential.

The Music Department is committed to equipping students with transferable skills which will undoubtedly make them successful young adults, these include: collaborating and creating successful working relationships, communication (both verbally and physically), empathy, problem solving, confidence and the ability to express ideas and opinions.

	Core Knowledge	Procedural Knowledge
	TOPIC: Elements of Music/Singing unit	Pupils will

Autumn Term 1	Use a detailed and more advanced musical vocabulary. Use correct Italian musical terms. Describe how composers have manipulated the Elements of Music to create an intended effect. demonstrating a good understanding of pitch, duration, dynamics and articulation through a well-rehearsed and accurate performance.	• Use advanced musical vocabulary - applying a wider range of descriptive terms confidently when discussing music. • Use correct Italian musical terms - accurately identifying and applying terms such as <i>forte</i>, <i>legato</i>, <i>crescendo</i> and others. • Describe how composers manipulate the Elements of Music - explaining how pitch, duration, dynamics, texture and other elements create specific effects. • Demonstrate secure control of pitch, duration, dynamics and articulation - performing with accuracy, expression and attention to detail in a well-rehearsed piece.
Spring Term 3	Topic: Keyboard Skills Perform on the keyboard from treble clef staff notation with confidence using both the left and right hands. Play left hand chords in a variety of styles e.g. <i>arpeggios</i>, <i>broken chords</i>, <i>Alberti Bass</i>. Perform more advanced additional pieces fluently with accuracy of rhythm and pitch.	• Perform from treble-clef notation with confidence, using both left and right hands together • Play left-hand chords in different styles such as <i>arpeggios</i>, <i>broken chords</i> and <i>Alberti Bass</i> • Perform more advanced pieces fluently

Summer Term 5	Topic: Ukulele Project/ Structure Understand the importance of musical contrast between sections of music in Binary, Ternary and Rondo forms demonstrating this through performance, composition and improvisation. Create and improvise effective contrasting sections to Question Phrases and "B" sections to pieces of music in Binary, Ternary and Rondo forms.	• Know the ukulele strings and hold/tune the instrument correctly • Play key chords such as C, Am, F and G using chord diagrams • Strum in time using simple rhythmic patterns • Follow chord progressions accurately with a steady pulse • Show musical contrast through changes in dynamics, texture or strumming • Perform in an ensemble, keeping in time with others • Rehearse and perform in small groups with confidence and accuracy
Homework: Homework is set for each unit and appears in a variety of formats, ranging from online learning tasks to written assignments. This ensures pupils engage with the material in different ways and can reinforce their learning independently.		
Assessment: Assessments take place in the form of Practical/Composition Assessments and Listening papers throughout the year.		
Links to Personal Development: Build confidence through performing in front of others and taking on individual musical roles Develop teamwork by rehearsing and performing in full-class and small-group ensembles Improve focus and self-discipline through practising chord changes, strumming patterns and maintaining a steady pulse Strengthen resilience by working through challenging transitions and refining performances Enhance creativity by exploring contrast, dynamics and different musical textures		

How is my knowledge developed further at Y8?

In Year 8, pupils deepen their musical understanding by building on the core skills of performing, composing and listening introduced in Year 7. They revisit and extend the Elements of Music, develop stronger notation reading, and explore a wider range of styles across classical, popular and world music. Performance becomes more confident through solo and ensemble work, composition becomes more independent using both manuscript and DAW skills, and listening skills grow through more advanced musical vocabulary and analysis