KS3 Curriculum Overview 2025-26

**Subject: MUSIC**

Rationale of KS3 Curriculum:

Build on prior learning by building curriculum around the musical elements, devices, tonalities and structures

Allow opportunity to form creative opportunities to develop musical ideas through performance and composition skills

The Musical World Unit will specifically widen students understanding of cultural, social and traditional musical conventions

Music technology will be used to understand influences and effects on the way music is created with specific reference to the music industry

Students will have the opportunity to understand music in a real-life context, including the sales and reproduction of music

Planned cultural capital will be woven throughout

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| Sequence of Learning: | | | |
| KS3 | Term 1 | Term 2 | Term 3 |
| Year 7 | **The elements of music**  Each element related to performance, composition and listening  **Keyboard skills**  Correct finger positions  Understanding simple melody  Adding accompaniment and harmony | **Rhythm**  Pulse, rhythm, note values and time signatures  **Form and Structure**  Understanding Question  And answer phrases, Binary, Ternary and Rondo form | **Sonority and Timbre**  Orchestra layout and timbre of instruments within the family groups of Strings, woodwind, Brass and Percussion  **Composition skills**  Write a melody with simple chords to create a harmony |
| Year 8 | **Hooks and Riffs**  **Bass Clef**  All about the Bass: Exploring the Bass clef. Walking bass line, Alberti Bass line and Arpeggios | **Variation form**  Using the elements of music to create variation.  Variation form as a musical structures.  Changing musical devices.  **Reggae**  Stylistic conventions of Reggae.  Syncopation | **World music**  Indian Instruments  Raga, Tala  African music  Drumming and cyclic patterns  **Gaming music**  Adapting a melody to fit different scenarios.  Importance of repeating melody and sound effects**.** |
| Year 9 | **The Blues**  Chords and triads.  12 bar blues and walking bass line  Effective features of Blues and its development  **Soundtracks**  Music to enhance visual image.  Timings and crucial factors in composition/performance of Film music | **Minimalism**  Stylistic changes from Romantism to minimalism  Compositional and serialist techniques  **Dance music**  Musical features of dance music.  Focus on EDM and music technology in creating advance music. | **Popular song**  Textural and structural elements of a pop song  Using a lead sheet in creating a musical arrangement. |