

Curriculum Overview – Year 7

When?	What?	Why?	How?	Support
Autumn Term	Instrumental Skills – Students get to play the ukulele, guitar, drum kit, keyboard/piano and percussion over the course of the term. Students will also use their voice and create a piece of music using music technology.	Every student is innately musical in some way. This term’s work aims to offer them the widest possible chance of finding an instrument or approach that exploits their musicality. Students will have had a number of different musical experiences in primary school, this term’s work is designed to build on their existing knowledge and introduce students to new experiences.	Students spend three to four weeks learning to play each instrument. Lesson activities and tasks are based around learning specific songs or pieces of music that are engaging and culturally significant.	Music Technology resources are readily available for free online.
Spring Term	An Introduction to Classical Music - Students create a timeline that charts the progress of classical music from its beginning to the experimental music of today, this includes references to the Art and culture related to the music.	Students initial perception of ‘Classical Music’ is often that it is boring. The term’s work pushes students to understand the meaning and process behind the creation of classical music and to find some music that engages them. We then relate the techniques and approaches learnt to contemporary pop and rock music.	Students study the different styles and developments in classical music through studying specific pieces. Students also study the technological developments of musical instruments. Students create a portfolio of a series of short musical ideas to demonstrate their understanding of some of the musical principles studied.	Lists of wider listening opportunities will be published.
Summer Term	Music for Film – How is a film enhanced by music? Students study the ways music is used in film to enhance the action on screen. Music from a range of genres of film is analysed and students build up a knowledge of techniques that composers for film use.	Music is used in film in dynamic and engaging ways. Students often have a knowledge and understanding of film music but often without the necessary vocabulary to explain what they know. Creating music for film is a fun way to approach composition and encourages students to make creative connections between what they hear and what they see.	Students build up a knowledge of the techniques used by film composers. Students compose short musical ideas along the way to build up a ‘toolkit’ of composition techniques. Students complete the term’s work by creating a piece of music for a short film clip. They use a combination of live instruments and music technology to achieve this.	Lists of wider listening and viewing opportunities will be published.