

Curriculum Overview – Year 9

When?	What?	Why?	How?	Support
Autumn Term	Find a voice and a direction – Students start work on an ambitious yearlong project to produce a two track EP. Students start off by forming into production teams, learn to play and record a shortened 'demo' of an existing song.	In this term's work, students are encouraged to take more charge of finding a direction for their music making. Students also practice the wider skills needed to be a successful musician like co-operation, negotiation and problem solving.	The term's work builds on the skills developed at the end of Year 8 but gives students much more power of the direction of their work in lesson times. Most time is spent in small groups rehearsing toward their demo recording.	
Spring Term	Song writing workshops – Students undertake a series of song writing workshops to explore the different elements of a song from building a melody and harmonic progression to lyric writing and rhyme scheme.	Students are given an opportunity to take further ownership over their musical direction. Understanding and experiencing the creative process of writing a song is vital step in growing a young musician's confidence.	Students form song writing partnerships and they collaborate to develop the lyrics, melody, harmony and accompaniment of their songs. The song writing process is broken down into smaller steps which build up to the final development of a finished song.	
Summer Term	Development and recording – Students will record the full song they tried earlier in the year along with the song they have written. Students will also develop a basic marketing plan to 'release' their music.	Arranging, preparing for and executing a performance to a deadline is vital skill for a successful musician. Students also need to understand the worth of their creative endeavours. How are they going to successfully promote themselves and take part in the music industry.	Students work in groups to develop their songs ready for the recording process. Over the term students take time out of lessons to record their work, they then build a simple marketing plan to release their recorded music.	