

GCSE Music**Exam Board: AQA****Course Description:**

Music in Year 9 consists of opportunities to listen to, compose and perform music in a wide range of styles and genre. Students combine a practical approach using traditional instruments with extensive use of music software and technology, developing the skills of listening and appraisal and they work as individuals or as part of ensembles.

Course content:

At the end of each term students should produce at least one performance, a mixture of solos and ensembles over the course of the year.

Terms 5 and 6; one lesson in each term will be allocated to the completion of a creative task.

Terms 1 and 2; theory activities / online theory tasks will form part of listening and practical lessons to ensure all students reach a minimum grade 2/3 equivalent standard, for example learning about: rhythm, melody/ scales / key, chords, Italian terms, expression etc.

Terms 3,4,5,6, listening will become increasingly prominent and linked to the composition tasks. Pupils will maintain logs and records of all their personal listening; vocabulary recorded in a language for learning sheet.

Composition Term 1: Compose to a focus piece. Students will study a piece of music and identify key musical features under the headings melody, rhythm, texture, timbre before creating their own piece with similar features.

Composition Term 2: compose to own choice focus piece (link with “My Music” for GCSE). Students are guided through a process of research and analysis to take place individually prior to composition process.

Composition Term 3: Compose to a stimulus. Students will be given a starting point choosing from one of: a picture, painting, video clip, poem or piece of writing / scenario.

Composition Term 4: Compose to a given musical idea (rhythm, chord pattern, and melody / note pattern: develop a given idea.

Composition Term 5: Free choice composition.

Important information:

Project based homework is set for the duration of each term (5-6 weeks) and includes research tasks, listening and appraisal of a wide range of music. On-going instrumental or vocal practice is an expectation.

Useful websites:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/bitesize/music/>

<http://www.audacity.com>

<http://www.musictechteacher.com>

Extra-Curricular Opportunities:

Choirs, Orchestra, Production, Jazz Ensemble, student led Ukulele and Steel Pans.

Provision for the Most Able:

Topic specific resources placed on VLE in Music subject area. Extension tasks available for each unit. Optional twilight sessions run on Thursday evenings in terms 3-5.

Assessment:

Termly project assessment, work uploaded to VLE class folders. Weekly theory short tasks.

