



## Music: Curriculum Overview

Year 9

| Half Term        | Topic studied      | What will I learn?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | How will I be assessed?                                                                     |
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| Year 9<br>Autumn | Classical Remix    | Students explore how Classical music has shaped and influenced Popular Music across different genres and time periods. Through listening, performance, and creative tasks, students identify features such as chord progressions, motifs, orchestration, structure, and compositional techniques that appear in contemporary music. Using BandLab and practical music-making activities, students experiment with adapting Classical ideas into modern styles, developing an understanding of how musical traditions continue to inspire today's artists and producers. | Performance assessment of Maroon 5s memories.                                               |
|                  | Music and Business |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Listening assessment identifying contemporary and classical musical features in an extract. |
|                  |                    | Students explore the commercial side of the music industry and develop an understanding of how music is created, promoted, and monetised. Through practical and research-based activities, students investigate areas such as branding, marketing, live events, streaming, copyright, and artist management. Students work collaboratively to develop music projects and promotional materials, applying entrepreneurial thinking while analysing how successful artists and businesses connect with audiences and build sustainable careers in music.                  | An event portfolio for a Christmas musical event.                                           |

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| <p>Year 9<br/>Spring</p> | <p>Music<br/>Through the<br/>Decades</p> <p>Minimalism</p> | <p>Students explore the development of Popular Music across different decades through listening, performance, and composition activities. They investigate how musical styles, conventions, and cultural influences have changed over time by studying characteristic features such as rhythm, instrumentation, song structure, harmony, and performance style. Students perform and create music inspired by a range of eras, developing an understanding of how trends and influences have shaped the music we listen to today while building confidence as performers and creative musicians.</p> <p>Students explore the development of minimalism as a key twentieth-century musical style and its impact on contemporary composition. Through listening, analysis, and practical composition tasks, students investigate how minimalist composers use repetition, pulse, and gradual change to create evolving musical textures.</p> <p>Students study the work of key composers such as Steve Reich, Philip Glass, and Terry Riley, focusing on techniques including ostinato patterns, phasing, additive processes, and sustained harmonic movement.</p> <p>Through composing and performing activities, students develop their own minimalist ideas, experimenting with layering, rhythmic repetition, and subtle variation. They also analyse how minimalist techniques are used in film, media, and contemporary popular music, developing an understanding of how simplicity and repetition can be used effectively to create atmosphere and structure in</p> | <p>A performance activity of a ballad</p> <p>A digital pop song composition using the circle of fifths (like I will survive/fly me to the moon)</p> <p>A digital composition using minimalist techniques</p> <p>A listening assessment based on minimalism techniques</p> |
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