



Music CURRICULUM MAP

YEAR 9

HALF TERM 1: Guitar Skills Advanced Performance Pupils will Learn; Basics of Playing a guitar - The body - The neck - The fretboard - The strings - Use of fingers on the fretboard - Strumming - Plucking How to read Guitar Tablature - How to read individual pitches on a guitar stave - Numbers representing frets - Lines representing Strings - Reading Melodies from guitar tabs Performing Melodies from guitar Tablature Students will learn to play the tune to Ed Sheeran 'Perfect' on the guitar using Guitar Tabs. Assessment Students will be assessed on accuracy of pitch, rhythm, transition of notes and overall stylistic performance of piece		How to Read Guitar Tabs Simplifying Theory
		Students will perform the melody for 'Perfect' by Ed Sheeran on Guitar
		Key Words - Fretboard – Part of the neck of a guitar embedded with frets to change pitch - Strumming - A strum or stroke is a sweeping action where a finger or plectrum brushes over several strings to generate sound. - Plucking - Plucking is a way of pulling and releasing the string in such a way as to give it an impulse that causes the string to vibrate - Chord - 3 notes played at the same time - Tablature - system of musical notation based on a player's finger position, as opposed to notes showing rhythm and pitch.
		Career Links – Students will learn the skills required to perform and compose on specific instrument
HALF TERM 2: Band Work – 'Castle on the Hill' In this unit, pupils will learn the key skills of performing in an ensemble and implement them into a group performance of Ed Sheeran – Castle on the Hill All pupils will learn each individual part to the song; - Vocals – Pupils will learn the lyrics from memory. They will be able to use ensemble skills to ensure the vocal part is in time with the rest of the ensemble. – Non-Verbal Communication skills/ Timing/ Knowing their part/ Reading from sheet - Piano – Being able to read from a chord sheet/ Performing the correct chords using the correct finger pattern/ Timing of chords/ Chord Transitions between sections - Bass Guitar – How to read tablature/ Playing Bass notes correctly/ Keeping in time - Acoustic Guitar – how to read guitar tablature/ playing in time/ using the correct finger pattern to		The Ultimate Guide to Performing on Stage (schoolofrock.com)
		Students will learn and develop a performance within a band leading to a final assessed performance
		Key Words - Communication – How performers interact with each other within a performance - Tempo – The speed of the music - Timing – How the different parts fit together musically - Vocals – The use of voice, lyrics in the music - Chords – 3 notes played at the same time - Melody - Main part of the music - Motifs – Short musical Phrase



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play the chords/ correct amount of strings per chord. <u>Pupils will focus on performance skills</u> - Non-verbal communication skills - Timing - Tempo <u>Assessment</u> Group Performance		Performing Arts – Performing skills Students will develop confidence through performing to others Links to careers in music and performing arts and provides skills linked to public speaking
HALF TERM 3: Song Writing Pupils will learn; - common song structures (verse, chorus, bridge) - Compose original lyrics using rhyme, rhythm, and structure - Create a melody and harmony using basic chords and scales - Use technology to record or perform their song What makes a Song? - Identifying sections - What makes a song successful? - Lyrics and structure? - Musical Features – repetition/ contrast, hooks and dynamics Form and Structure? - Standard forms ABABCB - Pop Structure Writing Lyrics - Themes – friendship, identity, love and social issues - Musical Features – Syllable stress, narrative flow and imagery - Rhyme Schemes - AABB, ABAB, Free verse Use of Harmony and Chords as Accompaniment - Use I–V–vi–IV (C–G–Am–F) progression - Use of Primary Chords - Creating own chord progressions Assessment Students to write their own lyrics and then perform this over their own chord progression. This will be recorded into a DAW or Recording software.		Songwriting Resources & Recommendations – The Art of Songs https://blog.landr.com/songwriting/
		Students are to compose their own lyrics for a theme and add this to a chosen chord progression. This will result in a final recording of a piece of music of their own creation
		Key Words - Structure – How a song is organised into different sections - Lyrics – The words of a song - Melody – Main tune of the music - Harmony – The chords used - Rhyme Scheme – The pattern of rhymes at the end of lines in lyrics - Expression – Way a performer shows emotion through dynamics, articulation and vocal tone
		Performing Arts – Performance Skills Music - Songwriter - Sound engineers
HALF TERM 4: House Music Pupils will Learn; - Explore the stylistic origins and musical characteristics of House music		How to Make House Music - Pro Tips for Beginners – Soundtrap Blog How To Make House Music: An Easy Guide (2025) - EDMProd



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- Understand how House music is built using rhythm, structure, and texture - Compose a full-length House track using music technology - Develop creative use of loops, effects, and arrangement Introduction to House Music: Beat, Tempo, and Repetition Key musical features;		house Archives - Blog Splice
- 4/4 Time - 'Four on the floor' Beat – How to create and play this beat - Repetition and Looping - Tempo – 120-130BPM Synths & Basslines: Texture and Instrumentation - How to create a house style synth sound - How to create a house style bassline - The use of synth chords and riffs - Layered textures - Repetition with development Structure and Development – Build ups and Drops - To understand how house music uses structure and subtle changes to build interest - Use of loops and automation Use of effects - How to add effects to your piece to make it more stylistic Assessment Students will compose their own piece of House music using Stylistic features	 	Students are to compose a piece of House music using the key features and skills learnt during the scheme of learning Key Words - Four-on-the-floor - A drum pattern where the bass drum plays on every beat in 4/4 time, creating a steady, danceable rhythm. - Loop- A short section of music (e.g. 1–4 bars) that repeats continuously. Common in electronic and House music. - Synthesizer (Synth) - An electronic instrument that produces a wide range of sounds, often used for chords, leads, and effects in House music. - Bassline - A low-pitched repeated pattern that supports the harmony and drives the rhythm in House tracks. - Breakdown - A quieter section of a House track where instruments drop out, building tension before the music builds back up to a drop. - Tempo - The speed of the music, measured in beats per minute (BPM). House music typically has a tempo of 120–130 BPM. Career Links - students will learn the skills for Performing Arts – Performance skills IT – Software skills – Garageband/ Logic and recording skills DJ and music producer
HALF TERM 5: Rock N Roll Music Pupils will learn; Origins and History - History and origins of Rock N Roll Music - 1950's America - Influences on the style – Jazz/ Gospel/ Blues/ Country - Famous Artists Key Characteristics of Rock N Roll Music - Walking Bassline - Use of Primary Chords - Strong back beat – accented of 2 and 4 - Swing/ shuffle rhythms - 12 bar blues structure - Homophonic texture - Blues scale	  	Rock 'n' Roll Music Guide: 4 Characteristics of Rock 'n' Roll - 2025 - MasterClass Extended Questions Compare the stylistic musical features and instrumentation between Rock N roll music and Blues music? 'Compare the stylistic musical and instrumentation between 2 different Rock n Roll pieces of music?' Key Words - Walking Bassline - steady sequence of notes, usually played in crotchets, that "walk" up and down the scale, outlining



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- Fast tempo - Solos and Improvisation - Guitar bends and slides - Simple time - Syncopated rhythms <u>Instrumentation of Rock N Roll Music</u> - Electric guitars - Upright bass - Drum Kits - Piano - Vocals - Mainly male Vocal <u>Listening Task – Analysis of Rock N Roll music</u> Students will listen to a range of Rock n Roll pieces, they will analyse the key features they can hear in the music. <u>Comparison Questions</u> ‘Compare the stylistic musical features and instrumentation between Rock N roll music and Blues music?’ ‘Compare the stylistic musical and instrumentation between 2 different Rock n Roll pieces of music?’ <u>Assessment</u> – End of Half term Quiz – Key features and Instrumentation of Rock N Roll <u>Homework</u> <u>Lesson 1</u> - Revise history and origins of Rock N Roll music <u>Lesson 2</u> - Revise the key musical features of Rock n roll music - Revise the stylistic instrumentation of Rock n Roll music <u>Lesson 3</u> - Revise for end of unit quiz		the chord progression and keeping a strong rhythmic pulse - Homophonic Texture – Melody + Chords - Swing Rhythm - is a rhythmic feel where notes that are written evenly (usually eighth notes) are played with a "long-short" pattern. - Syncopation – Irregular Flow of rhythm - Improvisation – Making a part up - Accent – emphasis on a note Career Links - Students will learn the skills for a composer through Composition and IT skills – Use of software
HALF TERM 6: Rock N Roll Composition Pupils will learn; <u>Students will recap the use of Garageband</u> - How to start a new score? - How to change key signature? - How to change time signature? - Adding new instruments to the score - How to pick instruments - How to record – Counting in, ensuring recording starts in the correct position. - How to Time Quantize - How to edit notes - How to edit recordings – cutting/ copying/ pasting/ looping. - Layering separate recordings.	  	Rock 'n' Roll Music Guide: 4 Characteristics of Rock 'n' Roll - 2025 - MasterClass Students are to compose a piece of Rock N roll music using the musical features and skills learnt in previous and current scheme of learning Key Words - Walking Bassline - steady sequence of notes, usually played in crotchets, that "walk" up and down the scale, outlining the chord progression and keeping a strong rhythmic pulse - Homophonic Texture – Melody + Chords



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<u>How to compose in the style of Rock n roll music</u> - Choosing stylistic instrumentation - Creating a 12-bar blues using primary chords in a major key signature - Creating a walking bassline in the correct key signature - Creating a melody/motif using the Blues scale and blue note - Creating a stylistic drum beat in the style of 1950's Rock n Roll - Creating a verse chorus structure		- Swing Rhythm - is a rhythmic feel where notes that are written evenly (usually eighth notes) are played with a "long-short" pattern. - Syncopation – Irregular Flow of rhythm - Improvisation – Making a part up Accent – emphasis on a note
<u>Assessment</u> – Students will be assessed on the stylistic accuracy of their Rock N Roll composition		Composition and IT skills – Use of software