

MUSIC IN YEAR 8

Subject title	Music
Setting arrangements	Mixed ability groups
Time allowance each fortnight	2 hours

Main aims of Key Stage 3 music

Lessons in key stage 3 are specifically devised to appeal to all students, regardless of ability, instrumental or theoretical background.

They cover a wide range of historical and cultural topics and focus very closely on musical UNDERSTANDING, be it through performing, composing, listening and appraising.

All work units contain activities in performing pieces, group composition and listening.

Each unit introduces specific music vocabulary relevant to the initial main musical elements introduced in the first term of year 7.

Assessment

Assessments are made each half term, and all students can track their progress on record sheets in their course booklets.

All activities for assessments are based on set expectations and students will either be excellent, good or unsuccessful in meeting these expectations.

Examples of assessed activities:

Performing melodies from the Renaissance period and Holst's 'Planets Suite'

Listening test based on the drum beats of a selection of pop/rock songs

Information poster about a famous Blues Artist

Group composition of a blues song

Performance of Pachelbel's Canon in a full class ensemble

Topics covered during the Year 8 course:

- **Drum rhythms**
- **Renaissance and Baroque**

- ***The Planets***
- ***Blues***
- ***Classical and Romantic***

Homework

Expected time allocation for the subject

1 hour per fortnight. Most work units consist of short research tasks relating to the genre they are studying to be shared during lesson starters. However, most unit will have one larger activity (such as the production of an information poster on a famous composer or performer)

Additional support for the course

Other sources of help

Each year students are provided with a music booklet with all relevant listening activities and exercises as well an assessment sheet for each work unit and a self assessment sheet where they can review their progress.