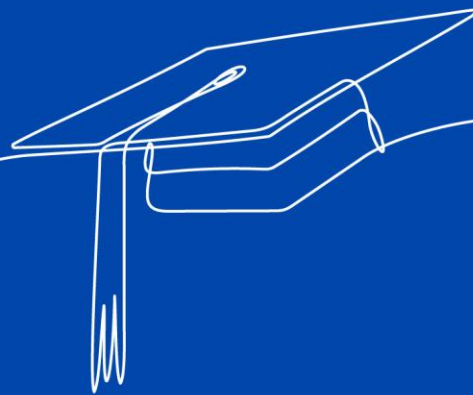


Music

curriculum overview



Music at Tenbury High Ormiston Academy

Key stage 3, Years 7, 8 and 9

Our KS3 Music curriculum aims to develop pupils' musical understanding, confidence and creativity through performing, composing, and listening. Pupils explore a wide range of musical styles, traditions, and genres, learning how music reflects different cultures, histories, and identities. They develop practical skills on instruments and through vocal work, building the confidence to perform individually and as part of an ensemble.

We teach pupils to listen analytically, use musical vocabulary accurately, and understand key concepts such as rhythm, harmony, structure, and texture. Through composition, pupils learn to generate, refine, and present musical ideas with increasing independence. Our intent is for pupils to leave KS3 with a strong musical foundation, a sense of enjoyment, the confidence to express themselves through music and the enthusiasm to continue to further musical study.

Year 7

In Year 7, students will learn to appreciate and make music, through singing and playing an instrument. They will learn to read some musical notation and will experience a wide range of pieces and styles.

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Unit 1 Ensemble Singing: Skills and Performance Core vocal and ensemble singing skills; warm-ups, harmony work, rehearsal techniques and collaborative song arrangement.	Unit 2 Developing Keyboard Skills Keyboard technique, note reading, rhythm, melody and hand coordination. Chords, accompaniment patterns, rehearsal, performance, and musical expression on the keyboard.	Unit 3 Graphic Scores: Exploring Musical Elements Graphic scores, alternative notation and the use of symbols to represent musical elements. Interpreting, creating, composing, and performing graphic scores using pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, texture, and timbre.	Unit 4 Classical Music: Orchestra, History & Composition Explore the four orchestral families, key musical periods, and influential composers. Develop an understanding of melody, structure, dynamics, texture, and timbre to create expression and contrast in orchestral music.	Unit 5 Popular Music Through the Decades Instrumental technique, chords, rhythm and strumming patterns in popular music. Song structure, ensemble performance and the development of popular music from the 1950s to the present day.	Unit 6 Sound Effects & Foley Exploring how sound effects and Foley are created and used to enhance storytelling, atmosphere, and realism in film, television, and other media.

Assessments will take place in January and June and we will share revision information a few weeks before each assessment.

Year 8

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Unit 1 Blues: Performance & Improvisation Explore the origins and key features of Blues music, developing skills in the 12-bar Blues, chord progressions, bass lines, melodies, and improvisation. Build confidence in ensemble performance through rehearsal, refinement, and expressive musical communication.	Unit 2 Major & Minor: Exploring Tonality Explore major and minor tonality through performance and listening, developing an understanding of how music can convey different moods and characters. Build keyboard skills through the study of Für Elise, focusing on technique, fluency, coordination, dynamics, and expressive performance.	Unit 3 Reggae Music Develop an understanding of Reggae music through its characteristic rhythms, bass lines, and ensemble performance techniques. Build performance skills by learning accompaniment patterns, performing as a group, and exploring the stylistic features of the genre.	Unit 4 Music Technology Learn about music technology through the use of digital audio workstations (DAWs), creating and arranging original tracks using loops, layers, texture, and structure. Refine production skills through editing, applying effects, and evaluating completed compositions.	Unit 5 Songwriting Develop an understanding of songwriting through the creation of chord progressions, melodies, lyrics, and arrangements. Build creative, compositional, and performance skills by writing, refining, and performing original songs inspired by a range of popular music styles.	Unit 6 Samba: Rhythm & Ensemble Performance Experience Samba music through the performance of characteristic rhythms, call and response patterns, and ensemble techniques. Build confidence in group performance by developing rhythmic accuracy, coordination, and teamwork within a Samba ensemble.

Assessments will take place in January and June and we will share revision information a few weeks before each assessment.

Year 9

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Unit 1 Film Music & Soundtracks Explore how music is used in film to create mood, atmosphere, character, and emotion. Develop composition skills through the use of motifs, leitmotifs, harmony, texture, dynamics, structure, and timbre to create an original film soundtrack.	Unit 2 Songwriting & Composition Develop an understanding of songwriting through the creation of chord progressions, melodies, lyrics, and arrangements. Build composition and performance skills by creating, refining, and performing original songs.	Unit 3 GCSE Music Taster Project Practical experience of the three key areas of GCSE Music - performing, composing, and listening. Build musical skills through performance, composition, and analysis while gaining insight into GCSE Music assessment and KS4 study pathways.	Unit 4 Remixing & Production Explore music production through remixing, sampling, and arranging music within a digital audio workstation (DAW). Build creative and technical skills by creating, refining, and evaluating original tracks using bass lines, harmony, texture, and production effects.	Unit 5 Minimalism & Rhythmic Composition Learn about minimalist music through the use of repetition, phase shifting, rhythmic layering, and melodic variation. Build composition and ensemble performance skills by creating, refining, and performing original minimalist works inspired by the techniques of composers such as Steve Reich.	Unit 6 Latin American Music Develop an understanding of Latin American music through the exploration of syncopated rhythms, percussion techniques, and ensemble performance. Build confidence in performing and arranging music inspired by a range of Latin American styles.

Assessments will take place in January and June and we will share revision information a few weeks before each assessment.