





The curriculum for this stage of students' education has been designed to be inclusive to all and to give a broad introduction to Music by developing skills in the three main areas of Performance, Composition and Listening/Appraisal. The intention is to build creative performers and composers who can collaborate supportively. The curriculum is designed to build confidence and create a positive working environment where all students feel comfortable taking risks and performing in front of their peers. Students will also learn a wide range of subject specific vocabulary in order to effectively evaluate their own work, and that of others when reflecting on performances and compositions. They will also develop the vocabulary required to discuss a wide variety of music from different eras and cultures. Students' musical strengths will be assessed in order to channel their talents appropriately to maximise their potential.

<p>HALF TERM 1 – INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC / BEATS Students will look at building on their rhythmic skills throughout the topic through learning the snare drum.</p> <p>STUDENTS MUST KNOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to recognise different note durations • How to hold a drum stick using the fulcrum grip • How to be respectful of performances within the class. • How to analyse their progress, focusing on constructive and positive comments. <p>HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance assessment. • A written reflection of their progress. 	<p>HALF TERM 2 – LOOPS Students will be exploring how to use a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) and the structure of popular songs using the loops function on Bandlab.</p> <p>STUDENTS MUST KNOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to select appropriate instruments / sounds on a DAW. • How to work in a group to compose a short piece. • How to select different loops that sound good together to create a short piece • How to use a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) <p>HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group performance assessment. • A written reflection of their progress. 	<p>HALF TERM 3 – KEYBOARD SKILLS Students will look at building their note reading skills through the use of keyboards, aiming to play 'Ode to Joy' by Beethoven.</p> <p>STUDENTS MUST KNOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to find C on the keyboard. • How to read treble clef notation from middle C to E. • The correct technique for playing the keyboard/piano. • How to use a DAW to play a MIDI Keyboard • How to analyse their progress, focusing on constructive and positive comments. <p>HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual performance assessment. • A written reflection of their progress.
<p>HALF TERM 4 – CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS PROJECT Students will be exploring the elements of music through a group composition project based on the Carnival of the Animals by Camille Saint-Saëns.</p> <p>STUDENTS MUST KNOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to select appropriate instruments / sounds to represent different ideas on a DAW. • How to work in a group to compose a short piece. • How to compose short melodic ideas and write/record these on a DAW • How to use a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) <p>HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group performances. • A written reflection of their progress. 	<p>HALF TERM 5 – RHYTHMS OF THE WORLD TOUR PART ONE Students will be introduced to music from around the world, using both class and small group ensembles, along with listening.</p> <p>STUDENTS MUST KNOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The typical features (Instrumentation, rhythm, texture) and context of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ West African Drumming ○ Bhangra <p>HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group performances. • A written reflection of their progress 	<p>HALF TERM 6 – SCHOOL OF ROCK PROJECT Students will learn the song '7 Nation Army' by The White Stripes using guitar, drums, bass, keyboard, and vocals to form a rock band.</p> <p>STUDENTS MUST KNOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to rehearse in a small group. • How a rock band functions and the instrumentation. • Typical features of a rock/pop song. • How to use a DAW to record live instruments <p>HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group performances. • A written reflection of their progress.

Embedding this knowledge can be supported at home by: Encouraging additional practice if there is an instrument at home, or by starting to learn an instrument through tuition at school with Dudley Performing Arts. Making sure that students bring headphones/earphones (must have an AUX lead – no Bluetooth headphones please) to music lessons. Allowing access to computer to help students prepare and revise for knowledge tests, along with our online composition software to create music at home. Recognising the importance of music within the curriculum and its role in helping to build confidence, foster creativity and to build on both social and resilience skills. Pupils are encouraged to take part in extra-curricular activities including the production and more.