

In year 8 music you will further develop the knowledge and skills you learnt in year 7. All the work you do will work toward your final protest Song composition challenge:

Autumn term

Topic 1: How to Be a Great Composer

8.1: The Black Note March

Performing

8.2: Melody

Composing

Spring term

Topic 2: Popular Music

8.3: Blues to Rock n Roll

Performing

8.4: Riffs & 4 chord songs

Performing

Summer Term

Topic 3: Song Writing

8.5-8.6: Protest Songs

Composing

How will you be assessed?

- You will have a mini assessments around October, February and May half term.
- Your main assessments will at the end of the autumn, spring and summer terms.
- Your assessments will be practical – either composing or performing music

Wider Listening – homework

- Listening to a wide range of music is very important. Not only does this help you to develop your musical understanding, but is also a good way to relax and unwind.
- You will have listening based homework throughout the year (maximum 2 per half 2)

What will you learn?



Knowledge you will learn:

- Further develop your understanding of the musical elements
- Learn about different styles and cultures in music, including the Classical and Romantic eras, blues and modern popular music
- Learn a range of popular music techniques such as riffs, 12 bar blues and improvising



Traits you will develop:

- Resilience
- Confidence
- Independence
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Organisation
- Creativity
- Reflection on progress



Skills you will develop:

- How to compose music using different elements in different styles
- Instrumental performance skills on a ranger of instruments -voice, guitar, ukulele & keyboards
- Improvising
- Identifying musical elements and devices aurally



Topic 1: How to Be a Great Composer

In this unit you will learn how to perform and compose music for the piano. You will develop your keyboard performance skills by performing a piece of music. You will use this as a template for writing your own melodies, learning some simple tricks to writing a tune.

8.1 The Black Note March

8.2 Melody



Notation (durations, lines and spaces, sharps and flats, dotted notes), time signatures, ostinato, pentatonic scales



Melodic device (motifs, repetition, sequences, conjunct & disjunct), how melody and chords are related, pentatonic scales



Resilience, independence, teamwork, discipline, communication, creativity, reflecting on progress, organisation, presentation, leadership



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Developing confident performers: Solo keyboard performances, performing with an ostinato, maintaining a steady tempo, perform with fluency and confidence, identifying time signatures aurally



Developing confident composers, instrumental skills, composing using notation, identifying melodic devices aurally, composing to fit a chord sequence

Assessment 1:
Melody
 Compose a melody to fit a chord sequence

Topic 2: Popular Music



In this unit you will develop your understanding of popular music. You will study Blues Music – arguably the starting point of modern pop and rock. You will learn standard features of both blues and rock music; 12 bar blues and the blues scale. You will then learn the features of rock and pop music, listening to and performing 4 chord songs and riffs using TAB notation

8.3 Blues to Rock n Roll

8.5 Pop & Rock



12 bar blues, extended chords (7th), blues scales, walking bassline, improvisation



Riffs/Ostinato , 4 Chord songs, TAB/Notation



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Developing confident performers: Perform using the 12 bar blues and blues scale, perform syncopated rhythms, identifying musical elements, improvise using the blues scales



Developing confident performers: Ensemble performance skills, performing riffs & chord sequences using TAB/chord grids identifying riffs aurally

Assessment 2: Performance

Perform a rock or pop song as a band

Topic 3: Song Writing



In this unit, you will bring together all the elements you have studied in year 7 and 8 to compose your own protest song. You may chose a riff based song, use the 4 chord sequence, 12 bar blues – it's up to you! Using the skills you have developed, this is your opportunity to develop your musical voice and showcase your own style.

8.5-8.6 Protest Songs



Form & structure (12 bar blues, strophic, verse/bridge/chorus), intro/outro, musicianship/practice skills



Resilience, independence, teamwork, discipline, communication, creativity, reflecting on progress, organisation, presentation, leadership



Developing confident performers & composers: composing using riffs, chord sequences, composing a melody, instrumental skills (keyboard, guitar, ukes and vocals),

Assessment 3: Protest Songs

Using the elements we have studied in year 8, compose a song that protests a topic of your choice