

## What are the aims and intentions of this curriculum?

The Y8 Music curriculum enables the progression of performance, composition, listening and appraising. Students learn about riffs, scales and chords, leitmotif, extended chords and rhythmic patterns through the study of Blues, Reggae and Games Music. Students will be given the opportunity to play instruments during lessons, encouraged to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding through practical application.

Term	Topics	Knowledge covered	Skills developed	Assessment
Autumn 1	Blues	Learn how music can reflect time & place, how culture affects music & how emotion is expressed in music  Blues scale 12 bar blues Primary chords and dominant 7th chords	Performance: 12 bar blues in pairs/ensemble Improvise using the blues scale	Performance Listening exercises Terminology test Homework
Autumn 2	Variations	Learn how to change a melody using rhythm & key  Minor chords Triplets, dotted rhythms	Composing: develop a variation on a given Christmas theme Perform the theme and variation	Composition Listening exercises Terminology test Homework
Spring 1	Reggae	Learn about the musical characteristics of reggae & understand the political context of the music Syncopated rhythms Major & minor chords Bass riffs	Perform in the style of reggae with chords & riff Compose bass riffs	Performance Listening exercises Terminology test Homework
Spring 2	Jingles	Learn about the characteristic of effective radio jingles Lyric writing Chords sequences	Compose a radio jingle for a designed product	Composition Listening exercises Terminology test Homework
Summer 1	Gaming Music	Learn how composers use motifs to represent character & settings  Major & minor scales Diatonic & chromatic harmony/melodies	Compose a leitmotif for protagonist & antagonist characters	Composition Listening exercises Terminology test Homework
Summer 2	Gaming Music	Learn how composers use instruments, timbre, tone, tempo and pitch to represent characters and feelings Pitch Articulation Structure	Performance: prepare, rehearse and perform 2 contrasting themes for protagonist and antagonist characters	Performance Listening exercises Terminology test Homework