

GCSE Music

Musical theory and analysis

- Understand the basics of musical theory including scales, chords, intervals, time signatures, rhythm and pitch notation, keys and scales.
- Complete a series of listening activities, identifying the features of pieces of music.

Practical music making

- Understand different ways music can be structured.
- Learn and be able to use chords, cadences and melody.
- Compose pieces using music software, in order to understand the simple technical requirements of a composition.
- Perform initial pieces and respond to feedback for improvement.

Musical structures and features of chamber music

- Through the study of simple piece, learn to identify common features used in solo and chamber music.
- Develop understanding of melody, instruments and structures.
- Explore the rules of harmony, looking at the use of chords and cadences.
- Compose in response to their exploration of the features of classical music.

Popular music

- Explore popular music, starting with the blues and moving on to rock and roll, rock, 90's brit-pop and club dance music.
- Study the makeup of the standard popular music ensemble: bass, chords, melody and percussion.
- Understand the features of popular music including instrumentation, structures, word setting, production and effects and chords/bass sequences.
- Compose in response to exploration of popular genres, focussing on chords, melody work and word setting.
- Rehearse compositions and improve performances based on feedback.
- Understand popular music forms including how vocal sounds are used, how music is produced or manipulated electronically and the features of different genres and styles.
- Rehearse ensemble performances.

Film Music

- Understand the key components and conventions of film music: use of the elements, cliché and convention, creating dissonance, electronic and conventional instrumentation, themes and leitmotif, mood and action.
- Plan performances and begin rehearsals for solo and ensemble recordings.
- Begin to compose a piece of film music or other piece from the Composition Brief.

Musical forms and Devices

- Understand the components and conventions of musical theatre, jazz and chamber music.
- Study various aspects of texture and understand how parts work together to produce a musical effect.
- Complete a solo performance.

Set works

- Complete a detailed study and analysis of Mozart's Eine Kleine Nacht Musik (set work 1) and a similar project on 'Since you've been gone' by Rainbow.

**Advice to students
for independent
study**

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