

Subject: Performing Arts (Music) Year 7 & 8 Curriculum Map 2024-2025

	Topics covered and core knowledge and skills	Links to careers	Resources Links
Half term 1	<p style="text-align: center;">Singing across the decades</p> <p>This Singing Across the Decades scheme of work for Year 7 explores the evolution of vocal styles and singing from 1900 to 2020, focusing on how genres like jazz, rock, pop, and R&B shaped singing techniques. Students will study the distinct vocal approaches of each era, starting with early classical and operatic singing, moving through jazz and blues, and progressing to modern genres like hip-hop and pop. Alongside genre-specific techniques, they will explore how elements of music such as pitch, dynamics, rhythm, and harmony apply to vocal performance.</p> <p>Core skills include developing breath control, projection, pitch accuracy, and expression, while understanding different voice types (soprano, alto, tenor, etc.). Students will also learn how different genres suit various vocal ranges and how to adapt their voice to different styles. By studying famous vocalists like Aretha Franklin, Elvis Presley, and Billie Eilish, they will gain insight into the techniques and emotional delivery required for each genre.</p> <p>In addition to technique, students will explore the historical and cultural context of each musical era, understanding how social changes influenced vocal performance. By the end of the scheme, they will have improved their vocal skills, gained confidence in performing diverse styles, and developed the ability to interpret and express a wide range of musical genres.</p>	<p>For careers, click here</p>	<p>Knowledge Organiser</p>
Half term 2	<p style="text-align: center;">Rhythm and Pulse</p> <p>This Rhythm and Pulse unit for KS3 focuses on developing students' understanding of the fundamental elements of rhythm and pulse in music. Students will explore the differences between pulse (the steady beat) and rhythm (the pattern of notes and silences). Through practical exercises, they will learn how to keep a steady pulse and create rhythmic patterns, both individually and in groups. The unit will cover different time signatures, such as 4/4 and 3/4, and how they influence the feel of a piece of music.</p> <p>Core skills include developing the ability to maintain a steady pulse, perform complex rhythms, and read and write rhythmic notation. Students will engage in body percussion, clapping exercises, and instrumental work to internalise rhythm. They will also explore syncopation, polyrhythms, and ostinatos, learning how these techniques create interest and complexity in music. By analysing different genres, from classical to pop and world music, students will understand how rhythm shapes the character of a piece.</p> <p>Through practical work and listening tasks, students will build their rhythmic awareness and confidence. By the end of the unit, they will have developed the skills to perform and create their own rhythmic compositions, applying what they have learned about pulse, time signatures, and rhythmic techniques.</p>	<p>For careers, click here</p>	<p>Knowledge Organiser</p>

	This will improve their overall musicianship and their ability to collaborate in ensemble settings.		
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