



Subject: Performing Arts (Music) Year 9 Curriculum Map 2024-2025					
	Topics covered and core knowledge and skills	Links to careers	Resources Links		
Half term 1	 Protest Rap This Protest Rap unit for Year 9 explores the role of rap music as a powerful form of social commentary and protest. Students will examine how artists use rhythm, rhyme, and lyrics to address political, social, and cultural issues. The unit will cover the origins of rap and its evolution into a global genre, with a particular focus on protest rap from the late 20th century to the present day. Key topics will include civil rights, social justice, and the use of music as a platform for activism. Core skills will include writing and performing rap lyrics, focusing on rhyme schemes, flow, and rhythmic delivery. Students will analyse influential protest rappers such as Public Enemy, Kendrick Lamar, and Stormzy, exploring how their lyrics challenge societal issues like racism, inequality, and injustice. Students will learn to write their own protest raps, using rhythm and rhyme to convey their message effectively. Through listening, lyric analysis, and practical rap performances, students will develop their ability to express ideas and emotions creatively. By the end of the unit, they will have written and performed their own protest raps, gaining confidence in vocal delivery and understanding how music can be a tool for change. This unit will also enhance their knowledge of how rap music has influenced political movements and continues to resonate with global issues today.	For careers, click here	Knowledge Organiser		
Half term 2	Gamelan This Gamelan unit for Year 9 introduces students to the traditional Indonesian music of the Gamelan orchestra, focusing on the unique instruments, rhythms, and structures that define this style. Students will learn about the cultural and historical significance of Gamelan music, particularly from Java and Bali, and will explore how the layered, cyclical patterns of this music create a hypnotic, communal sound. Using metallophones and other pitched percussion instruments like xylophones and gongs, students will work together to perform traditional Gamelan pieces. Core skills will include learning to play simple, repetitive cyclical patterns that are characteristic of Gamelan music, focusing on ensemble playing, timing, and the interlocking rhythms typical of this genre. Students will develop their understanding of gongs, metallophones, and other pitched percussion instruments, learning how each instrument contributes to the overall sound and texture. They will also explore key elements of Gamelan, such as slendro and pelog scales, the colotomic structure (the rhythmic cycle), and the concept of community performance.	For careers, <u>click here</u>	Knowledge Organiser		

Through listening, ensemble practice, and performance, students will gain a	
deep appreciation for the unique tonal and rhythmic qualities of Gamelan	
music. By the end of the unit, they will have participated in a group	
performance of a traditional Gamelan piece, improving their ensemble skills	
and understanding of how layered rhythms and pitches work together to create	
complex, meditative music. This unit will also help develop their ability to	
listen critically and work collaboratively in a musical setting.	

