



Subject: Music

Head of Subject: Mr. P. Swannell

Year: 9

Organisation of the Subject

Music is taught in mixed form groups of 23 students. The students have ONE lesson per week. Students are generally working between levels 6 and 8.

Key Concepts (The big ideas underpinning the subject)	Key 'Learning Capacities' in this subject
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding and using the 'Elements of Music' – pitch, tempo etc. Using pulse and rhythm as a starting point for performing and composing. Understanding pitch and creating melodic shape and form Reading and writing musical notation Solo and group performance – both instrumental and vocal Developing listening and appraising skills. Appreciating how music technology can facilitate learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focussed careful listening and repetition of key features. Understanding basic musical vocabulary Techniques of personal practice Using the imagination to create musical ideas Working collaboratively Working alone by trial and improvement Developing music technology skills.

What will your daughter be learning?	How will your daughter be learning?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of songs – both unison and in parts. A variety of notation techniques Developing performance skills on a variety of instruments including keyboards and percussion. About key musical vocabulary through listening activities. Studying 5 'set works' from a variety of genres and cultures. Creating and writing melodies within a variety of set musical structures. Developing musical harmony skills Understanding the principals of the recording process – i.e. multi-tracking and studio techniques Learning how to creatively use music technology. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Singing as a whole-class, in small groups and individually. Combining a variety of notation techniques to facilitate composition/performance. Playing a range of instruments in ensemble and individually Using listening examples to demonstrate the meaning of musical words Using the 5 set works to go in to greater depth of understanding. Composing pieces from a variety of starting points both in groups and individually. Regularly recording performances and compositions and critically evaluating each other. Working with more advanced features on software such as Sibelius 7 and Garageband.

How will learning be assessed?	What can you do to support your daughter?
<p>Every half term, students will be formally assessed in the 3 disciplines of composing, performing and listening. They will also complete a course of homework-based theory tasks which will be regularly marked. A listening and appraisal exam will take place at the end of the year – based on the 5 set works.</p>	<p>If she has individual lessons on an instrument, encourage her to practice every day in preparation for the next lesson. Make sure that the theory tasks are completed on time and, if you are able to, offer support in developing these skills. Encourage her to sing and play in ensembles and generally get involved in the musical life of the school. Try to listen to a variety of music at home.</p>

Equipment needed for this subject	Extra-Curricular / Enrichment Opportunities

The usual writing implements and, in particular a decent, sharp pencil for notation. If your daughter has individual music lessons, she should be encouraged to bring the instrument to school for class lessons.

The Junior choir is open to all girls in year 9. The Concert Band is open to any girl who can play a wind or brass instrument from about Grade 2-3 standard. The junior string group is similar for string players. A new brass group (for all abilities) is also starting from September 2013. These meet at lunch times. The Orchestra is combined with LRGS and is for advanced players of orchestral instruments, mostly older girls, and meets after school on Thursday. Pianists and other soloists have many opportunities to play in assemblies/concerts throughout the year and the music festival in the summer term.

If you have any questions about this Learning Overview, please contact your daughter's subject teacher in the first instance.