

Curriculum Information Bramcote College

Year Group: 8

Subject: Music

Objectives/purpose	The Year 8 Music curriculum continues to develop students' musicianship skills by providing an increasingly challenging range of stimulating topics. Pieces of music are carefully selected to engage students and allow them to develop both their physical dexterity and resilience.
Autumn Term	<p>HOOKS (4 lessons)</p> <p>Using either keyboard, ukulele, percussion instruments, or their own instruments from home, students work in groups to perform hooks from pieces of popular music. Hooks are the segments of music that act as 'ear-worms' (think Smoke on the Water, or Seven Nation Army). Fundamental to this project is the ability to work and play as an ensemble to produce a set of mini covers of famous songs.</p>
Spring Term	<p>KEYBOARD SKILLS 2 (5 lessons)</p> <p>Before students can be expected to perform or compose in a certain style, it is imperative that they develop a solid technical proficiency on the instrument they are to be using. The purpose of this recurring project is to build this firm foundation in keyboard playing. Students build on prior learning in this intensive project on skill acquisition by learning to play short pieces of music on the keyboard. This project involves a lot of self-directed learning – students progress through book two containing short pieces that get progressively more complex and require a building skill base. These skills range from playing melodies with the correct fingers of the right hand, to self accompanying with chords in the left hand, to calculating the most efficient way of navigating three or four note chord progressions by employing different inversions. Those students who take piano or keyboard lessons out of school are expected to bring in their music and take the opportunity to progress further. This project is assessed through a minimum of 3 solo performances.</p>
Summer Term	<p>FILM MUSIC (5 lessons)</p> <p>Using either keyboard, ukulele, or their own instruments from home, students work in groups to perform the theme tunes from famous films. Each group performs</p> <p>STRUCTURES (4 lessons)</p> <p>Students interrogate the structures of a range of pieces of music by analysing what they hear. Initially using just keyboard, but later branching out onto other instruments if desired, students compose their own piece of music using either ternary form or rondo form structures.</p>
How is progress measured?	Progress is assessed by way of either solo or group performances of music either provided or of their own compositions. Progress is measured by the increased effectiveness of communication using music specific technical vocabulary, the increasing mastering of instrument specific techniques and their compositional maturity.
How is the subject externally examined? (KS4 and KS5)	N/A

Extending Learning at home	Students are able to sign up for specialist 1:1 tuition on any one instrument of their choice. For students on free school meals, holding NHS exemption certificates, or in receipt of working tax credits, lessons are free. For those who are not, there is a fee for this tuition. Please contact your music teacher for more information.
Support Available	<p>Differentiation is core to what we do in music. We recognise that there are many significant challenges in terms of physical dexterity and cognition that may need to be overcome. Clearly, the work is structured so that a careful balance between challenge and achievement can be reached.</p> <p>Furthermore, we are acutely aware that some students have had the significant advantage of specialist instrumental tuition. If this took place in your primary school, we will be able to continue this provision here at BC. Throughout all the projects there is significant scope for acceleration and the acquisition of additional skill.</p>
Useful web addresses and book resources/revision guides	

Date reviewed: