OVERVIEW

SPRING/SUMMER

In Music at Year 8, we develop and enhance all the knowledge and skills that students gained from the previous year. They are looking at new styles, genres and topic areas to enrich their musical understanding and to use pre-existing skills to start creating and performing music to a certain style, incorporating key musical techniques for authenticity. Students will be exposed to a wide variety of music to enrich their knowledge and skills through analytical development.

Component 1 (Samba)

Students will perform a series of aural rhythms as part of a group, incorporating musical expression such as dynamics, timbre and accents. They will develop their understanding of different cultural and historical aspects of the genre.

Component 2 (The Swing from Blues to Jazz)

Students will explore the fundamental elements of blues harmony including 7th extensions and how these techniques where later developed into 'Big Band' Jazz. Through a performance of Glenn Millers 'In the Mood'.

Assessment

Throughout the components there is a performance assessment at the end of each topic alongside a midpoint review to help scaffold their learning for a positive outcome. Throughout each lesson students will partake in consistent formative assessment activities.

Personal Development

Students will show willingness to participate in musical activities and to understand and appreciate the wider range of cultural influences through Classical Music. Students will study local orchestras and venues such as The Halle Orchestra and the Bridgewater Hall. They will uncover career opportunities through aspects of the music industry. Students will develop their understanding of cultural, historical and geographical aspects of music through Samba Drumming.

Mid-Year Assessments:

Students will be assessed on their skills and knowledge so far to review their understanding. This will address the two components covered so far along with prior knowledge in previous years.

Component 3 (Escape from the Mountain King)

A performance analysis of Grieg's 'In the Hall of the Mountain King'. Exploring compositional features of the piece's Norwegian folk influence

Component 4 (Theme and Variation of 'The Mountain King')

Students use the theme of 'In the Hall of the Mountain King' to compose a piece that sees the story of Grieg's 'Peer Gynt Suite' told differently.

End of Year Assessments

To recall all knowledge and skills learnt through the academic year in all component areas. To highlight any misconceptions students, have over the four aspects of music learning: Performing, Composing, Listening and Appraising and Theoretical Content. Students will recall their knowledge and review their assessment, highlighting misconceptions. Having an opportunity to take time to enhance their understanding of these misconceptions before students start a new school year.

Assessment

Throughout the components there is a performance assessment at the end of each topic alongside a midpoint review to help scaffold their learning for a positive outcome. Throughout each lesson students will partake in consistent formative assessment activities

Mid-Point Assessment

This takes place as a written exam to analyse students' theoretical, historical and cultural knowledge, as well as their understanding.

End of Year Assessment

This takes place as a written exam to analyse students' theoretical, historical and cultural knowledge, as well as their understanding of musical language through listening extracts.

Personal Development

Students get to explore feelings and emotion through the use of cliches and musical devices. They will uncover career opportunities through aspects of the music industry. There is a use of imagination and creativity in their learning and time to reflect on their feelings in regard to their compositions and arrangements of music, ensuring their piece reflects the emotions required for the film scene.

Useful resources for supporting your child at home:

https://www.musictheory.net/
https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmsvr82
https://learningmusic.ableton.com/
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLMvVESrbjBWpIAcg3pG0TesncGT7qv006