



Overview

Overview With 2 years listening and appraising skills under their belts due to the pandemic, the emphasis on this year is very much practical music. They explore Reggae, Blues and rock and roll through playing and composing. Film music is a huge industry today and this topic explores how composers such as John Williams craft their scores. Finally, we focus on reading guitar tab and writing songs.



Term 1

How do you play music in a Reggae, Blues and Rock 'n' Roll style of music?

Last year students explored these styles of music learning about their origins, Bob Marley's influence on music, comparing and contrasting blues songs and exploring the impact of rock and roll music on teenagers in the 1950's. This term they are revisiting this style but through a 100% practical route: re-kindling keyboard skills through playing in these styles, reading music and using the voices and backing styles on the keyboards focusing on Three Little Birds, playing and composing songs in a blues style and learning to play a walking bass for the rock'n'roll classic 'Rock Around The Clock'.

Year 9 Music



Term 3

How has popular music changed through time?

This term the students learn how to read tab for bass, ukulele and electric guitar through learning a piece from the baroque, classical and romantic era. This term also explores the impact these pieces have had on contemporary rock and pop music.

Songwriting

A culmination of all the skills learned thus far, the students will use a simple formula to write their own songs working towards group performances at the end of term.



Term 2

Why do films have music and how do composers use the musical elements in films?

This term focuses firstly on musical devices used by composers such as fanfares and leitmotifs. Students also explore the use of instruments and why certain instruments are more suited to create different moods. We also look at other elements such as rhythm, dynamics and tempo. In the second half of the term the students explore devices such as whole tone scales, diminished chords and tritones to create tension. They create the music to accompany a short film clip and explore the use of Mickey-Mousing in cartoons, creating the soundtrack to a short cartoon clip.