

Curriculum Information for Parents

Key Stage 3 Music

Learning Leader Contact Information		Phone: 01604 862125 or 01908 563468	Email: andrew.williams@ewsacademy.org.uk
Examination Board	N/A	Specification Code	N/A

Subject Content

All projects in Key Stage 3 are alternated between sites on a half termly basis to allow full use of resources on each site.

Year 7:

African Music

Students will be exploring the use of rhythm through the tradition of African music.

They will have the opportunity to develop their creative use of rhythm, group performance skills along with knowledge and understanding about traditional African Music.

Ukulele Skills

Students will learn all about the ukulele, from how to play a standard chord progression, the anatomy of the instrument and even have a go at tuning it themselves.

They will also be shown basic ukulele notations including TAB, chord charts and lead sheets.

Keyboard Skills

Students will be developing their skills on the keyboard.

They will look at proper technique, finger position, as well as two hand independent playing, coupled with the development of basic notation reading.

Vocal Skills

Students will be working on their vocal skills, including how to properly warm up/cool down and the importance of doing so.

We will be looking at how to maintain a part in an ensemble to sing in harmony

Melodic Ostinatos

This will be facilitated by the skills covered in the keyboard work.

Students will create their own melodic ostinatos and be able to layer these into a piece of music.

Creating a Chord Progression

Using skills on the ukulele, students will learn how to craft their own chord progression, including the importance of primary chords, cadences and how to add interest to a progression when used in repetition.

Year 8:

Samba Music

Building on rhythmic skills developed in year 7, Samba music allows students to explore the creation of more complex rhythms and on how to organize them into a well-structured and coherent piece of rhythmic music.

Students will learn about traditional samba instruments .

Guitar Skills

Being similar to the ukulele, this allows students to build further on the skills developed last year, by further developing playing skills and exploring guitar TAB and how to use and maintain a guitar and the exploration of Reggae music.

Further Keyboard Skills

Once again building on previous work, students will develop further skills using keyboards which will require them to master basic keyboard techniques and secure two hand playing skills to succeed, while building on notation reading skills.

Blues Music

Allowing students the choice to perform on guitar, keyboard or bass, students will explore how to perform in a Blues music style and how to use the 12 Bar Blues progression in a variety of keys, as well as developing performing skills in their chosen instrument.

Film Music

Students will begin to gain an understanding of how composers use music in films, from the creation of leitmotifs, to non-diegetic background music. Some students will also get the opportunity to explore this genre of music with the aid of music technology

Popular Music

Students will combine the knowledge and skills they have developed over Key Stage 3 to help them to create their very own popular music song. They will recap how to create a chord progression, linking it to a theme, call upon the instrumental skills developed and see how to create lyrics to match their chord progression and theme.

Additional Equipment Required:

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No additional equipment is required, though students are welcome to bring in their own instruments where appropriate, though this is done so at the students' own risk.

Assessment Details

All skills will be assessed through practical performance in music lessons. Interim performances will receive verbal feedback and final, assessed performances will also receive some written feedback, with targets related to the skills transferable to the next topic of study.

What can I do to support my child at home?

- Allow them to listen to music from the style/genre of study and ask them questions about what they hear
- If they have an instrument at home, encourage them to practice often

Recommended resources for the course:

www.Youtube.com

Teaching Staff Contact Details

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