

The Creative Arts Department at Wexham School
Music Curriculum Map



Term	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Autumn 1	African drumming Students will learn about African drumming and traditional African music. They will explore key features including pulse, call and response, syncopation and ensemble performance. Students will develop their performing skills through learning and performing layered rhythmic patterns.	The Blues Students will be introduced to the blues. Students will be learning the history of blues and learning the basic 12-bar blues sequence, pentatonic and blues scale. Students will be learning how to improvise over a backing track in the Key of C inspired by the Oscar Peterson.	Video Game Music Students will learn about video game music and how music is used to create mood, atmosphere and character within games. They will explore key features including leitmotifs, repetition, texture and electronic sounds. Students will develop their performance skills through learning and performing music from video games.
Autumn 2	Keyboard Skills Students will be learning how to read notation and exploring the elements of music. Students will be working towards developing proper keyboard technique by playing already existing pieces.	Ensemble Skills Students will carry on working on their collaborative skills by taking on roles such as leading their bands. Students will be required to choose different instruments to learn the popular songs from artists such as Beyoncé	Ground Bass Students will be introduced to Pachelbel's Canon. Students will be required to perform different excerpts from Pachelbel's Canon.
Spring 1	Ukulele Students learn to play chords on the Ukulele and perform pop songs in larger groups. Students begin considering ensemble skills.	The Beatles Students will be engaged in learning about the importance of The Beatles' music and their cultural impact on music. Students will be learning variety of different Beatles pieces each being more complex than the previous one.	Brit Pop Students will carry on working on their collaborative skills by taking on roles such as leading their bands. Students will be required to choose different instruments to learn Wonderwall by Oasis
Spring 2	Fanfares, Waltzes and Marches Students will learn about different styles and genres of music through listening and appraising activities. They will explore the key features of fanfares, waltzes and marches, including metre, instrumentation, dynamics and structure. Students will develop their analytical listening skills through identifying and discussing musical elements within a range of pieces.	Opera Students will learn about opera and the most prominent opera composers. They will explore key features of opera including vocal performance, orchestration, character and storytelling through music. Students' main task will be learning to perform the Habanera from Carmen.	Brit Pop Students will carry on working on their collaborative skills by taking on roles such as leading their bands. Students will be required to create their own Brit Pop piece with their already existing band.

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Summer 1	Orchestral Greats Students will be learning about the orchestra, role of the conductor, how to conduct different time signatures. Students will be engaged in learning to play different classical pieces of music.	Film Music Students will learn about film music and prominent film composers. They will explore compositional techniques used in film music including leitmotifs, dynamics, orchestration and creating mood and atmosphere. Students' main task will be learning City of Stars from "La La Land"	Jazz Students will learn about Jazz music and its origins. They will explore key features of Jazz including swing rhythms, improvisation, syncopation and ensemble performance. Students will develop their performance skills through learning and performing Autumn Leaves
Summer 2	Riffs and basslines Students will learn about riffs and basslines in popular music. They will explore how repeated melodic and rhythmic patterns are used to create groove and musical identity. Students will develop their performance and composition skills through learning famous riffs and basslines and creating their own musical ideas.	Reggae Students will learn about Reggae music and its cultural origins. They will explore key features of Reggae including offbeat rhythms, basslines, syncopation and lyrics with social and cultural messages. Students will develop their performance skills through playing and performing Reggae music.	Music Festival Students will explore different styles and genres of music through performance and composition activities. They will develop their creativity by creating or recreating their own piece of music for a music festival performance. Students will also develop rehearsal and ensemble performance skills.