WLA Music Vision

Our aim is to deliver a curriculum that sparks curiosity and creativity in music. Students write and perform their own pieces in a supportive and reflective environment empowering them to build on their skills. Students learn composition, performance and analysis and are inspired by both historical and contemporary musicians. They engage in lessons that teach them how to express themselves effectively using a universal language, it shows students that everyone can do it and there are no limits. Students' learning is extended by multiple opportunities in extracurricular activities both in and out of school. By performing to an audience, the students experience the power and impact music has on everyone and the satisfaction felt by a performer when their message is communicated.

Year 11

In year 11, students start with a skills development component where they are challenged to develop 2 different skills – either Performance, Composition or Technology. The skills learnt during this component will directly lead into component 3 – the final exam.

To finish the course, students must sit the component 3 exam. This takes place across the Spring term in lesson time. The exam board releases a list of 10 pieces of music from a variety of styles of music. Your task is to rewrite this song into one of the 4 new styles of music provided by the exam board. Students are encouraged to be ambition with their choices to showcase the skills that they have learnt throughout the BTEC course.

Year 10

In year 10, students have the option to choose to study towards the BTEC Tech award in Music Practice. Students can pick to follow a performance or music technology pathway to expand the skills learnt in key stage 3 with an element of challenge and ambition included in every component of the course. Students will complete component 1 in year 10 where they will write about four different styles of music giving high level examples and explanations throughout each element of music. Students are also required to create 3 products to accompany their research – this could be a performance, composition, a piece of music for media or a DAW project. Students are encouraged to learn new skills at this stage of the course and create products that push them out of their comfort zones to set themselves up for the rest of the course.

Year 9

*The focus in **Year 9** is to develop skills learnt throughout year 9 leading on to key stage 4. We will connect previous work on the key elements of music to further our understanding on music and how it is built. Students will write a range of pieces of music including video game music, hip-hop, raps and learn in depth about the elements of music and challenge themselves to identify different elements of music in a piece. Students are also tasked with planning their own individual project to end the year. This should be challenging and ambitious for all children and showcase their skills learnt throughout key stage 3.*

Year 8

Following an inspirational Year 7, students will continue to develop their musical skills and knowledge through a variety of topics covering performance, composition and production. Students will be encouraged to develop their own skills through a range of individual and group projects and challenge themselves throughout each project. From film music to EDM, a blues project based around riffs to a music production project, ambition is a key element of all projects in year 8 with students challenging themselves to strive for greatness in each and every project throughout year 8.

Year 7

*The focus in **Year 7** is to ignite a love of Music through an engaging and innovative curriculum. Students explore new styles of music through a series of performances and compositions and be able to develop their skills on multiple instruments across the year. Students will learn new skills across multiple instruments and can bring any previous musical experience into our year 7 projects. Students are also encouraged to sign up to extra-curricular clubs to develop other music skills and instruments not learnt in the classroom.*