Curriculum Overview

Curriculum Area: Music Year: 7

Year 7 Curriculum:

Autumn Term – Keyboard

During this unit, pupils build their understanding of note values, time signatures, and treble clef notation through practical and written activities. They develop basic keyboard skills by performing with the right hand on the piano, while exploring major and minor scales and how these shape melodies. Learning is applied through the performance of "Ode to Joy" by Beethoven, helping students develop confidence, accuracy, and musical expression.

Focus piece:

- *Ode to Joy – Beethoven*

Spring Term – Orchestra

During this unit, pupils develop key musical skills by exploring tempo, pulse, rhythm, and note values. They learn to read simple time signatures and treble clef notation, while gaining an understanding of instrument families and basic brass techniques. Pupils apply their learning through performing simple melodies and familiar songs, building confidence and performance skills.

Focus piece:

- *Easy melodies*

Summer Term – Folk

During this unit, pupils explore key musical concepts such as form and structure, focusing on verse and chorus, as well as call and response. They develop their vocal skills by learning to sing melodies and gain an understanding of folk music instruments. Pupils apply their learning by performing traditional pieces, including Drunken Sailor and Wellerman, on the keyboard and/or ukulele, building confidence and ensemble performance skills.

Focus piece:

- *Drunken Sailor – Traditional*
- *Wellerman – Traditional*

Links to National Curriculum

- Perform on instruments and through **singing**, both individually and in groups
- **Create** their own music, including rhythms, melodies and chord progressions
- **Listen** to and explore music from a variety of cultures and traditions
- Work as part of an ensemble, developing **teamwork** and **confidence**
- Playing instruments such as keyboards, ukulele and percussion
- Understanding how music works (rhythm, melody, harmony and structure)
- **Reading** and using basic musical notation
- Listening carefully and discussing music using appropriate vocabulary

Knowledge and understanding of this curriculum will be assessed by:

Assessment in Key Stage 3 music combines practical performance with ongoing checks of musical knowledge and understanding through listening tasks, questioning and short written responses. May include:

- Retrieval quizzes
- Listening questions
- Performance assessments based on accuracy, effort in practice and difficulty
- Audio recordings of practice performances and final performances

Powerful Knowledge/Cultural Capital Opportunities

- Understanding of orchestral instruments and their roles in music
- Experience of seasonal and classical music, including Ode to Joy
- Development of keyboard and performance skills
- Exposure to folk music traditions and their historical context
- Building confidence through singing and ensemble performance