



**Key Stage: 3**

**Subject: Music**

**Aims of the subject:**

In music at Key Stage 3, pupils develop the skills, knowledge and understanding required to be a musician, through a series of practical units built around themes as diverse as The Beatles, Folksong, Music for Advertisements and Coldplay. A firm understanding of the standard conventions of staff notation underpins all of the practical work undertaken, and pupils learn to apply this to instrumental performance focusing on graded keyboard work. Singing is an important aspect of music at Key Stage 3 and all pupils take part in singing activities throughout the year, with regular whole-year group singing in worship. The skills which pupils develop in Key Stage 3 are designed to enable them to continue their study at Key Stage 4 without necessarily needing to have had private instrumental lessons (although many do).

<b>Year</b>	<b>What will I learn?</b>	<b>What will I do?</b>
Year 7	<b>Unit 1: The Sea</b> Vocal technique, posture and breathing  Listening and appraising  Staff notation: rhythm and treble clef.	Whole class singing in unison, two and three parts. Basic vocabulary rooted in Western classical music. Practical and written tasks using staff notation.
	<b>Unit 2: Spirituality in music</b> Vocal technique, posture and breathing  Literacy  Staff notation: treble clef, time signatures, signs and symbols	Congregational singing in class and in worship – hymns and carols. Understanding the meaning of hymn texts – interpretation and links to scripture. Practical and written tasks using staff notation. Sight-singing. Formal music theory test at the end of term.

<b>Year</b>	<b>What will I learn?</b>	<b>What will I do?</b>
Yr 7 [cont'd]	Unit 3: <b>Octopus's garden</b> Vocal technique, posture and breathing  Keyboard skills: right hand  Music literacy	Unison singing to develop and aural memory for the keyboard task. Learn to play a right hand melody based on a sung activity. All tasks are based in western staff notation.
	Unit 4: <b>Londonderry air</b> Vocal technique, posture and breathing  Keyboard skills: right hand, wide leaps, fingering  Music literacy	Unison singing to develop and aural memory for the keyboard task. Learn to play a right hand melody based on a sung activity. All tasks are based in western staff notation.
	Unit 5: <b>Believe</b> Music literacy: song structure, bass clef  Vocal technique, posture and breathing Keyboard skills: both hands, accompaniment patterns, fingering	Score analysis with keyboard tasks using western staff notation. Unison and two-part singing. Learn to play an accompaniment for the song learnt in singing lessons.
	Unit 6: <b>Goldilocks</b> Vocal technique, posture and breathing Music in context Music literacy	Whole class singing in unison and two parts. Learn a piece of musical theatre, looking at how songs can be used to tell a story. Consolidation of skills learnt throughout the year.
Yr 8	Unit 1: <b>Coldplay</b> Music literacy: song structure, bass clef, treble clef Vocal technique, posture and breathing Keyboard skills: both hands, accompaniment patterns, fingering	Keyboard tasks using western staff notation. Unison and three-part singing. Playing an accompaniment for three Coldplay songs.

<b>Year</b>	<b>What will I learn?</b>	<b>What will I do?</b>
Yr 8 [cont'd]	<b>Unit 2: Snow Patrol</b> Music literacy: song structure, bass clef, treble clef Vocal technique, posture and breathing Keyboard skills: both hands, accompaniment patterns, fingering	Keyboard tasks using western staff notation. Unison and three-part singing Learn to play an accompaniment for two Snow Patrol songs.
	<b>Unit 3: Music for advertisements</b> Music in context  Composition Music literacy: treble clef, rhythmic notation, key signatures	Study target audiences and how music can be used to sell a product. Learn to write good melodies. Written tasks using western staff notation.
	<b>Unit 4: Baroque music</b> Music in context Keyboard skills: both hands, independent lines, fingering Music literacy: treble clef, bass clef, rhythmic notation, key signatures	Study the Baroque period: key dates, events and people. Learn to play a ground bass piece.
	<b>Unit 5: Writing a melody from chords</b> Composition Music literacy: treble clef, rhythmic notation, key signatures, chords	Learn to write good melodies which fit with a chord sequence, using non-harmony notes. Written tasks using western staff notation.
	<b>Unit 6: Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf</b> Vocal technique, posture and breathing Music in context Music literacy	Whole class singing in unison and two parts. Learn and perform a piece of musical theatre. Consolidation of skills learnt throughout the year.

### **Extra-curricular opportunities**

Department ensembles: Junior boys' and girls' choirs; auditioned chapel choir; theory group; orchestra; concert band; brass group.  
 Peripatetic lessons: One-to-one tuition is available in school [speak to Mr Gillthorpe or Miss Burtonwood].

### **How you can support your child's progress**

Encourage regular practice on the keyboards; music rooms are available at break and lunchtime if pupils do not have access to a keyboard at home. Websites such as [www.musictheory.net](http://www.musictheory.net) and iPhone/iPad apps such as Tenuto or the ABRSM aural trainer are particularly useful.