

Music Year 9 Music Tech pathway

Michaelmas 1	<p>Using the Digital Audio Workstation</p> <p>Introduction to Cubase – adding a melody, chords and bass line using Halion Sonic Adding a drum part using Groove Agent. Stimulus – The Blues.</p> <p>Assessment</p> <p>Can pupils improvise/compose using a given scale and structure? Can pupils create a composition using primary chords (I, IV and V, bass, drumkit and melody?)</p>
Michaelmas 2	<p>Britpop</p> <p>Building on the Rock ‘n’ Roll project from year 8 pupils will perform an extended song (exploiting verse-chorus-middle), and perform more difficult chords. Pupils will listen to a variety of 90s Britpop and (looking back at earlier rock music) they will study the impact of the development of the electric guitar. Pupils will develop knowledge of scales, chords, and song structure. Pupils will use software to complete composition tasks, such as developing a song structure of their own.</p> <p>Assessment</p> <p>Pupils will work in small groups to develop performances of “Wonderwall” (Oasis). Pupils will use Cubase to create a chord sequence, associated bass line and instrumental melody (or vocal line) for their own song.</p>
Lent 1	<p>Music and modes</p> <p>Pupils will further develop improvisation skills in this unit. Pupils will study rock/pop/jazz songs using modes e.g. Miles Davis (“So What”), Courtney Pine “Inner State of Mind” and the Police “Walking On The Moon”, amongst others including a short Classical piece. The major and minor modes will be studied. This will link to the Britpop project as pupils will also develop further develop their understanding of pop and rock music through tonality.</p> <p>Assessment</p> <p>In pairs, or individually, pupils will create a piece of music which uses a mode deliberately for expression and includes development of ideas, such as contrast e.g. verse/chorus, and melodic development/variation. Some pupils will consider modulation.</p>
Lent 2	<p>Minimalism and Club Dance</p> <p>Pupils will focus on texture in music e.g. layering with a study of 20th century minimalist techniques. They will perform minimalist music by Einaudi, Michael Nyman and Steve Reich. Pupils will listen to a variety of minimalist pieces exploring and understanding development techniques. Pupils will look at similar techniques used in Electronic Dance Music, and film music.</p> <p>Assessment</p> <p>Listening exercises - can pupils hear and recognize Minimalist techniques? Composition- can pupils develop music using minimalist techniques such as diminution, addition, substitution, layering. In dance music can pupils create risers and drops?</p>
Trinity 1	<p>Reggae Music</p> <p>cultural context, and evolution from ska and rocksteady, key artists eg Bob Marley, Jimmy Cliff, social and political themes, rhythm (“skank”), syncopation and the one-drop drum pattern, instrumentation, bass lines, chords and harmony.</p> <p>Assessment – in preparation for year 10 - a composition using appropriate software (Cubase), based on an NCFE Music Tech synoptic assessment. Pupils will demonstrate that they can work in a specific style.</p>

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Transition to year 10 Free Choice project: Pupils may select one of the genres of music we have looked at across the year (or free choice) and produce a full piece using either sequencing software (Cubase). For example they might:

- Compose a soundtrack for a video game or film clip using Cubase
- Create a song with four chords e.g I–V–vi–IV or I- VI- IV – V progression.
- Blues/Jazz Songwriting: Compose a piece inspired by the 12-bar Blues sequence, and Blues scale.
- Club dance: Create a club dance piece using repetition, layering, and techniques such as risers, drops, use of synthesisers. A

Assessment: In addition to the assessed practical work pupils will also complete an end of year examination which tests listening and theory skills which have been covered across the year.