Year One - GCSE Music

Autumn 1

Introduction to the GCSE course (3 weeks):

- Build on knowledge and experience at KS3
- Consolidate basic musical vocabulary and knowledge
- Study exemplar performances and compositions
- Look at the assessment criteria for the coursework tasks.

Instrumental Music 1700–1820 set works (4 weeks): J.S. Bach: 3rd Movement from Brandenburg Concerto no.5 in D major

L. van Beethoven: 1st Movement from Piano Sonata no.8 in C minor 'Pathétique'

- Explore these pieces by using the students' knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language to make critical judgements about the music. Once each piece has been studied, comparative and evaluative skills can be practised between the two.
- The set works show the link between Baroque instrumental music and dance genres. They also, and introduce fugue, and also the 19th-century Romantic sensibility in music and its application to sonata form.

Preparation for the performance component is ongoing.

Autumn 2

Instrumental Music 1700–1820 wider listening (5 weeks):

Explore pieces in genres related to the two set works, which may include:

- concerti by Vivaldi
- concerto grosso by Handel
- piano sonata movements by Haydn and Mozart.
- In each case relating the music to the set works studied through their use of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language.
- The works studied here give a background to the set works already studied. The concerto movements give a context for the Bach set work and the piano sonata movements should show a progression in the writing for piano and in the development of sonata form.

Vocal Music set work (2 weeks):

H. Purcell: 'Music for a While'

- Explore this piece by using the students' knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language to make critical judgements about the music.
- This area of study is diverse but coverage at this stage should reflect Baroque approaches to songwriting, including ground bass structures.

Preparation for the performance component is ongoing.

Spring 1

Vocal Music set work (2 weeks):

Queen: 'Killer Queen' (from the album *Sheer Heart Attack*)

- Explore this piece by using the students' knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language to make critical judgements about the music. Now both pieces have been studied comparative and evaluative skills can be practised between the two.
- This area of study is diverse but coverage at this stage should reflect 20th-century popular approaches to songwriting, including ground bass and verse and chorus structures.

Vocal Music wider listening (4 weeks):

Explore other settings of words to music for soloist and accompaniment, which may include:

- arias by G.F. Handel and J.S. Bach
- songs by Beach Boys and Alicia Keys
- if time, songs by Schubert, Faure and/or Britten
- In each case looking at the relationship of the words and music, and the use of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language.
- There should be coverage of the full chronological period from 1600s to 1900s, including a range of structures (strophic, through-composed, verse and chorus, da capo aria, etc.) and styles.

Preparation for the performance component is ongoing.

Spring 2

Free composition inspirations and task setting (1 week):

 Discuss possible routes into free composition, based on KS3 experiences, and providing examples and guidance towards inspirations.

Thereafter free composition is ongoing.

Music for Stage and Screen set work (2 weeks): S. Schwartz: 'Defying Gravity' (from the album of the cast recording of *Wicked*)

- Explore this piece by using the students' knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language to make critical judgements about the music.
- The study of this set works should examine popular contemporary musical theatre styles.

Preparation for the performance component is ongoing

Summer 2
Music for Stage and Screen wider listening (2 weeks):
 Explore pieces in genres related to the second set work,
 which may include: excerpts from other film scores by Deborah Lurie and composers like Howard Shore. In each case relating the music to the set works studied through their use of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language. The wider listening should enhance the study of matching music with images undertaken in the set work.
Work on free composition. Preparation for the performance component is ongoing. End-of-year examination (1 week).

Preparation for the performance component is ongoing.

Year Two

Autumn 1 Autumn 2 Revision of Year One areas of study (4 weeks). **Fusions wider listening (4 weeks):** • Explore pieces in which two or more styles are combined **Fusions set works (4 weeks):** to create a fusion, which should include music from Afro Celt Sound System: 'Release' (from the album African, Turkish, Afro-Cuban Jazz and Latin traditions. • In each case relating the music to the set works studied Volume 2: Release) Esperanza Spalding: 'Samba em Preludio' (from the through their use of musical elements, musical contexts album *Esperanza*) and musical language. • Explore these pieces by using the students' • The stylistic characteristics of each individual style must be knowledge and understanding of musical elements, isolated and then the fusion of the styles evaluated for its musical contexts and musical language to make effectiveness. critical judgements about the music. Once each piece has been studied comparative and evaluative skills **Discussion of composition briefs (1 week):** • Use the guidelines in the specification as a basis for can be practised between the two. • The individual cultures that have been 'fused' should discussion as to how briefs might be tackled. be isolated and the resulting fusion evaluated as a work of popular culture. Thereafter composing to a brief is ongoing. Preparation for the performance component is Preparation for the performance component is ongoing. ongoing.

Spring 1	Spring 2
Mock exam (1 week).	Revision of all set works and consolidation of wider
	listening (4 weeks).
Composing to a brief is ongoing.	
	Complete composition to a brief.
Preparation for the performance component is	
ongoing.	Record performances (2 weeks).

Summer 1	Summer 2
Revision of all set works and consolidation of wider listening (5 weeks).	Written examination.
Complete free composition	
Performing and Composing submitted for moderation (1 week).	