

Performing Arts - Music

The purpose of the music curriculum at Cornwallis Academy is to expose students to a highly practical approach, being inspired by Musical Futures pedagogy. Students are involved in listening, singing, and performing from day one. Theoretical knowledge is used to support the practical learning, as well as explore how a variety of cultures have shaped a wide range of musical styles and traditions. Students will deepen their understanding of 'how' by playing with accuracy and expression, improvise and compose using different structures, scales, and tonalities, explore a range of notations and develop a deeper understanding of a wide range of key musicians and composers through listening and appraising. Students will develop confidence and resilience as well as self-discipline and teamwork.

Students learn how to play keyboard, guitar and drums and use these skills to play together in ensemble settings. They learn how to use their voices correctly and body percussion.

In addition to classroom lessons, students can further study an instrument of their choice with through Andrew Parry Music. Currently we offer lessons in singing, piano, drums and guitar.

Year 7 - Music

What are the aims and objectives for this year?

Term 1: Elements of Music

- Students will discover the elements of music and how to apply them into a percussion performance using their bodies as well as percussive instruments.
- Students will develop their teamwork skills by working as part of an ensemble and then further enhance their performance by composing their own sections.

Term 2: Keyboard Skills

- Students will learn how to play the keyboard, using correct finger position posture. For those who can already play, their skills will be pushed further.
- Students will work together, firstly as a class ensemble and then in pairs and as a solo performer.
- Students will explore different genres of music.

Term 3: Music (Keyboard Leitmotif)

- Students will use the skills they have acquired from the Elements of Music SOW, in order to enable them to identify features that make leitmotifs effective.
- Students will use the skills they have acquired from the Keyboard SOW to perform famous leitmotifs.

Term 4: Film Music (Composition)

- Students will use the skills they have acquired from Elements of Music and Keyboard Skills, to compose music to accompany a short story/film animation.
- Students will explore different techniques to make a piece sound effective.

Term 5: Parody Writing (Composition and Performance)

- Students will learn the origins of song writing and why it is so important in today's music.
- Students will use the skills they have acquired in composition to compose their own parody song, based on a current chart song.
- Students will explore their voices and how to use them correctly. They will learn how to warm up their voices correctly and improve their posture, and they will then explore how to sing in an ensemble.
- This unit culminates in students performing their newfound skills.

Term 6: Music Technology - Creating a Ringtone

	This unit explores each student's creative side using Garageband/Bandlab DAWs to produce a ringtone arranging samples in a loop with automation and virtual instruments.
What previous knowledge is required?	No previous knowledge is required. Music teachers appreciate that most students have no prior experience of music.
How will this term's content help with future learning?	The Year 7 Music curriculum will support students in developing performance, compositional, listening and analysis skills. These skills will enable students to become more confident within these areas of study, ready to further develop throughout Years 8 & 9.
Resources	Watching any videos of performances will allow students to watch professional performers. Professional performances will allow students the opportunity to observe good technique and give them the opportunity to reflect on how further improvements to their skill set can be made. Listening to any genre of music will allow students to develop their ear with regards to analysis. The following BBC Teach resources are helpful for developing further skills in composing, analysing, as well as introducing music technology: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmsvr82 Ultimately, any opportunity to access a musical instrument, will always further develop a student's musical ability. There are many great instrument videos on YouTube that can be used to self-teach an instrument.
Links to the national curriculum/specification	The Model Music Curriculum has been set-up to revamp the curriculum further, by providing a roadmap to introduce pupils to the delights and disciplines of music, helping them to appreciate and understand the works of the musical giants of the past, while also equipping them with the technical skills and creativity to compose and perform as follows: - perform, listen to, review, and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles, and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians - learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, can learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and can progress to the next level of musical excellence - understand and explore how music is created, produced, and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/974366/Model_Music_Curriculum_Full.pdf
Assessments	Students are assessed continually by their teacher in the areas of performance, composition, listening analysis and music technology. An assessment point will be carried out once a term, where students will receive a summative grade which sums up the level that they are working at.