Holmer Green Senior School

Music

2026-27

Curriculum Intent

Work Hard, Be Kind, Have Passion

The Music Curriculum is designed to ignite a passion for music in all students, fostering both creativity and technical skill. Our intent is to provide a broad and balanced musical education that builds foundational knowledge, encourages self-expression and develops cultural awareness.

We aim to equip students with essential musical theory which will enable to students to read, write and interpret music accurately. Students will develop practical skills through singing, ukulele and keyboard, focusing on performance techniques, coordination and musicality. These skills form the basis for more advanced study in music and enhance students' confidence in performing both individually and as part of an ensemble.

Throughout KS3, students are assessed on their theoretical knowledge, practical skills and creative outputs. Regular feedback helps to identify strengths and areas for improvement, ensuring that all students can make their progress and achieve their potential. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for further musical study, whether as a GCSE option or as part of their broader personal development.

HGSS Curriculum Map

Year 7 Music



Exam Board: N/A			Careers- music agent, musician, producer. Teacher, broadcaster.		Co-curricular: Peri lessons, choir, showcases, band.			
	Rotation 1 Au1	**Rotation 1 Au2**	**AP1- Rotation 1**	**Rotation 2- Sp1**	**Rotation 2 Sp2**	**Rotation 2 AP2**	**Rotation 1 Su1**	**Rotation 1 Su2**
Content	Stomp & Sing	Keyboard Skills	<u>Written test on:</u> Time Signatures & Note durations Pitches including sharps and flats <u>Keyboard Performance:</u> Ode to Joy	Stomp & Sing	Keyboard Skills	<u>Written test on:</u> Time Signatures & Note durations Pitches including sharps and flats <u>Keyboard Performance:</u> Ode to Joy	Videogame Music	Motown
Skills:	Understanding time signatures and note durations, enabling students to compose and accurately dictate rhythms. Developing vocal abilities focusing on pitch, tone and rhythm.	Ability to read and write melodically with pitch including accidentals. Continuing vocal development. Developing performance skills through keyboard practical: Ode to Joy		Understanding time signatures and note durations, enabling students to compose and accurately dictate rhythms. Developing vocal abilities focusing on pitch, tone and rhythm.	Ability to read and write melodically with pitch including accidentals. Continuing vocal development. Learning about the orchestral families with a specific focus on keyboard-based instruments. Developing performance skills through keyboard practical: Ode to Joy		Music theory, Fusion music, performance appraisal and composition skills. Understanding the history of video game music, chiptune, psycho acoustics, leitmotifs and sound effects. Developing performing skills through keyboard practical: Tetris	Context, performance and appraisal. Understanding history of Motown Listening tasks – acts and artists Keyboard Skills – performance piece: My Girl Developing vocal skills

HGSS Curriculum Map

Year 8 Music



Exam Board: N/A			**Careers- music agent, musician, producer. Teacher, broadcaster.**		**Co-curricular: Peri lessons, choir, showcases, band.**			
	Rotation 2 Au1	**Rotation 2 Au2**	**AP1- Rotation 2**	**Rotation 1- Sp1**	**Rotation 1 Sp2**	**Rotation 1 AP2**	**Summer 1**	**Summer 2**
Content	Video Game Music	Motown	Completing a music theory test on: • Psychoacoustics • Key Signatures • Roman numeral chord analysis • Musical Elements • Leitmotifs Keyboard performance: Tetris	Ukulele	Film Music	Completing a music theory test on: • Film music • Leitmotifs • DR T SMITH elements Ukulele performance piece	Ukulele	Film Music
Skill	Music theory, Fusion music, performance appraisal and composition skills. Understanding the history of video game music, chiptune, psycho acoustics, leitmotifs and sound effects. Developing performing skills through keyboard practical: Tetris	Context, performance and appraisal. Understanding history of Motown Key signatures Listening tasks – acts and artists Keyboard Skills – performance piece: My Girl Developing vocal skills		Performance, Sight reading and Composition. Students will study: • Ukulele anatomy • Chords • Tablature • Performance • Writing for ukulele	Learning composition techniques to create a piece for an extract of film from The Woman in Black		Performance, Sight reading and Composition. Students will study: • Ukulele anatomy • Chords • Tablature • Performance • Writing for ukulele	Learning composition techniques to create a piece for an extract of film from The Woman in Black

HGSS Curriculum Map

Year 9 Music Specialism

Exam Board: N/A			**Careers- music agent, musician, producer. Teacher, broadcaster.**		**Co-curricular: Peri lessons, choir, showcases, band.**			
	Autumn 1	**Autumn 2**	**AP1**	**Spring 1**	**Spring 2**	**Summer 1**	**AP2**	**Summer 2**
Content	Musical Elements 1 & Performance	Christmas Composition	Music Theory test on: • Musical Elements • Note Durations including dotted notes • Intervals • Rests • Clefs Performance piece on chosen instrument	Music Eras	Write a Pop Song	Musical Elements 2	Music Theory Test on: • Chords • Cadences • Ornaments • Modulation Practical skills test	21st Century Skills Project: DAW skills – Ringtone
Skills:	DR T SMITH elements Exploring time signatures Clefs Syncopation Learning a solo piece	Listening activities Use musical elements to create a Christmas composition Continuing a solo piece		Understanding how music and instruments have evolved Listening Tasks Solo & Group Performances	History of Pop Music Composition Skills Either on instruments or via a DAW, writing a pop song	Chords: triads inversions, added, jazz. Extended, altered Cadences and Harmonization Ornaments Modulation		History of Ringtones Recording/Editing audio MIDI sequencing and virtual instruments Research tasks Using BandLab to create a ringtone.

HGSS Curriculum Map

Year 10 Music

Exam Board: Edexcel			Careers- music agent, musician, producer. Teacher, broadcaster.		Co-curricular- band, peri lessons, choir.			
	Autumn 1	**Autumn 2**	**Spring 1**	**AP1**	**Spring 2**	**Summer 1**	**Summer 2**	**AP2**
Content	Instrumental Music & Composition Skills	Instrumental Music & Composition Skills	Vocal Music & Performance Skills	Past Paper questions on: Bach Beethoven Wider Listening 12 marker Minimalism Composition Solo performance	Vocal Music & Performance Skills	Music for Stage and Screen Ensemble Skills	Music for Stage and Screen Ensemble Skills	Past Paper questions on: Bach Beethoven Queen Schwartz Wider Listening 12 marker Ensemble performance
Skills:	Bach Set work – exploring the use of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language. Wider Listening to enhance understanding. Essay writing skills – preparation for 12 markers. Composition skills and tasks – using Logic Pro	Beethoven Set work - exploring the use of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language. Wider Listening to enhance understanding. Essay writing skills – preparation for 12 markers. Minimalism Composition	Purcell Set work – exploring the relationship between the words and the music. Wider Listening to enhance understanding. Essay Skills – preparation for 12 markers. Solo performance skills		Queen Set work – exploring the relationship between the words and the music. Wider Listening to enhance understanding. Essay Skills – preparation for 12 markers. Solo performance skills with mock recording	Schwartz Set Work – exploring the use of musical elements, contexts and language for stage and screen. Wider Listening to enhance understanding and relating back to setwork. Essay Skills – preparation for 12 marker. Ensemble performance skills	Williams Set Work– exploring the use of musical elements, contexts and language for stage and screen. Wider Listening to enhance understanding and relating back to setwork. Essay Skills – preparation for 12 marker. Ensemble performance with mock recording	

HGSS Curriculum Map

Year 11 Music

Exam Board: Edexcel			Careers: music agent, musician, producer. Teacher, broadcaster.		Co-curricular- band, peri lessons, choir.			
	Autumn 1	**Autumn 2**	**Spring 1**	**AP1**	**Spring 2**	**Summer 1**	**Summer 2**	**AP2**
Content	Fusion Set Work & Performances	Fusion Set Work & Composition	Revision & Composition	Past Paper Composition Solo Performance Ensemble Performance	Revision & Performance	Revision	Revision	
Skills:	Afro Celt Sound System Set Work Solo recording	Spalding Set Work Ensemble recording Decide free brief	Revising all set works, focusing on musical elements Practice Papers Free brief		Revising all set works, focusing on musical elements Practice Papers Free brief	Revising all set works, focusing on musical elements Practice Papers	Revising all set works, focusing on musical elements Practice Papers	