



Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

Educating Women of the Future

Key Stage 4 Curriculum

	Topic/Big Question	Focus
Year 10	What are the building blocks of Music?	Intro to GCSE Music - Students will become familiar with the musical vocabulary, terminology and aural skills necessary to appraise music and explore the basic ingredients necessary to compose. They will explore music theory in relation to AOS1.
	How can we use structure to compose a successful piece?	Students dive into their first set work, J.S. Bach's <i>Badinerie</i> , a flute solo. Students use their music theory knowledge and consolidate their understanding of ornaments, structure and harmony through exploring this masterpiece.
	What are the characteristics of the different ensembles?	AOS 2: Music for Ensemble. Pupils will explore the fundamentals of three key ensembles; Jazz Bands, Chamber Music and Musical Theatre. They will learn to analyse various pieces in these styles and build their own ensemble. To support their learning of Musical Theatre, students will have the opportunity to go and watch a musical in the West End.
	How have instruments developed over the years and what were their functions?	Students further their understanding of Film Music (AOS3) through targeted analysis and a trip to see a live orchestra perform. This will aim at developing musicality through skill based tasks related to the variety of styles of Film music; identifying the context, key vocabulary, and terminology through a range of compositional and performance tasks.
	How can lyrics be expressed in order to tell a story?	AOS 4 Popular Music: Students will explore their second set work, Toto's <i>Africa</i> through detailed analysis, group performance and arranging their own version of the song. They will also delve into the history of Popular music, focusing on how various aspects have evolved over the decades.
	How is technology integral to the development of rock music?	AOS 4 Popular Music: Students further their knowledge of Popular Music by looking at the different purposes and advances of technology within this topic. Students explore this through composition and performance.
	How can technology enhance our compositions?	Students will practice using the computers to compose their own creation. This composition will be inspired by a work studied earlier in the year and acts as a practice for notating their own works.

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Year 11	How does harmony impact our music?	AOS 1: Musical Forms and devices. Pupils start their first composition - Free composition NEA. Solo performance recording NEA. AOS1 revision.
	What makes effective revision in music?	Ensemble performance preparation NEA. Free composition NEA. AOS2 revision.
	How can we enhance our ensemble performances?	Ensemble performance rehearsals. Composition set to a brief NEA. AOS3 revision.
	Refining our compositions.	Compositions set to a brief NEA. AOS4 revision.
	Revision.	Revision of set works and areas of study. Completion of coursework and final performances recorded. Composition set to a brief NEA.