

Music Curriculum Intent

Our Ambitious Aims

By the end of their time with us at Gloucester Academy, our students will be able to:

- Have a good understanding of Music concepts relating to music theory, performance, composition and music technology.
- Have the confidence to apply their knowledge to practical activities and develop their instrumental skills, on a variety of instruments.
- Listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, cultures, styles and traditions.
- Have a good understanding of the roles and responsibilities of those in the music industry, in addition to developing technical, practical, personal and professional skills relating to the music industry.

Big Ideas

To achieve our aims, students will be exposed to and develop a deep understanding of several Music concepts

Concept	Definition	Rationale
Music Theory	Music theory is the practice musicians use to understand and communicate through the language of music. Musical theory examines the fundamentals of music. It also provides a system to interpret musical compositions.	The understanding of musical theory and the musical elements is fundamental to be able to access the following aspects of the music curriculum: listening and appraisal, performance, composition and aspects of music technology. It is the foundation of the music curriculum from which everything is built.
Listening and Appraisal	Listening and appraising is the practice of analysing and identifying the musical elements in the music by ear.	The listening and appraisal of music is key to understanding how music has developed through historical periods, genres, cultures, styles and traditions.
Performance	Music performance is the practice of rehearsing instrumental skills ready for performance.	Music performance is the main objective of music study. Learning instrumental skills will provide pupils with an introduction into the practice of music.
Composition	Music composition is the practice of using music theory knowledge to write a piece of music.	Music composition provides pupils with the opportunity to apply their music theory knowledge to create their own pieces and express themselves through the language of music.
Music Technology	Music technology is the study or the use of any device, mechanism, machine or tool by a musician or composer to make or perform music.	Music technology is showing increasing importance within the music curriculum as the following processes are almost exclusively used within the music industry: arrangement, composition, production and recording of music.
Music Industry	The study of the music industry is the examination of roles and responsibilities of those employed within the music industry.	Learning about the roles of the music industry will aid in developing technical, practical, personal and professional musical skills. This may also inspire career opportunities in the music industry.

Curriculum Journey

In Music, our students will study an ambitious curriculum that is both challenging for all and broad and balanced in scope.

Year	Summary of study	Narrative & Rationale
7	Pupils will be introduced to basic music theory and instrumental skills on Keyboard and Ukulele. The pupils will also be introduced to the Music Software SoundTrap to learn the basics of Music Technology.	To be a successful musician, pupils will need a solid foundation of both theoretic knowledge and practical skills. Pupils will develop their understanding of music theory and the musical elements to be able to access all aspects of the music curriculum, including but not limited to performance, listening and appraising, composition, and music technology. Knowledge will be progressively developed so that pupils will be able to access further instrumental skills and compose their own music. Knowledge is built on week by week. Once one skill is learnt the next skill is taught to lead on from the previous one, thus allowing students to make rapid and sustained progress due to the sequencing of taught concepts. Each concept that is taught will add on to the previous one.
8	Pupils will develop the music theory knowledge that they learnt in Year 7 to be able to access more technical skills on the instruments. They will complete an ensemble project on the instruments as well as develop inputting skills on SoundTrap.	Pupils will be involved several practical projects that will allow them to explore different instruments, including but not limited to keyboard and ukulele. These two instruments will work as an introductory instruments to aid in developing their own personal interests within the musical world. There will be challenge opportunities to explore other instruments in band projects, such as acoustic and electric guitar, voice, bass guitar and drum kits. However, the focus will be on developing technical skills on keyboard and ukulele.
9	Pupils will develop their music theory knowledge and their instrumental skills through exploration of a variety of musical styles and genres. They will further develop their music technology skills through completing a composition project on SoundTrap.	Pupils will develop their music technology skills through several projects focusing on different aspects the subject. As an introduction to SoundTrap, pupils will learn how to use the basic functions of the software and create an arrangement using loops. Their skills will be developed by learning how to accurately input a piece of music into SoundTrap, aiming to recreate a composition in the software. Their final project will focus on utilising all the skills and knowledge they have learnt through the curriculum by composing their own piece of music on SoundTrap.
10	Pupils will develop their listening and appraising skills and apply them to a selection of contrasting musical genres. Pupils will explore different musical styles through workshops. The workshops will focus on a variety of musical skills, such as performance, composition and through music technology. They will record their progress and evaluate throughout this component.	During Key Stage 4, Music pupils will develop key skills that will improve learner's aptitude in music. Pupils will respond to a musical brief where they will apply the music skills and techniques learnt at Key Stage 3. Pupils will use processes that underpin effective ways of working in the music sector, such as the development of musical ideas, and using skills and techniques for rehearsal, creation, production, and performance. Pupils will develop attitudes that are considered important in the music sector, including personal management and communication. They will know use their knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, processes and attitudes in the sector, such as musical skills and styles.
11	Pupils will focus on music performance throughout this academic year. Pupils will have to complete two performance projects, aiming to create stylistic accurate covers of their chosen song. They will record their progress and evaluate throughout these components. In addition to this, they will explore the roles, responsibilities and key skills of the music industry.	Pupils will begin Key Stage 4 by demonstrating an understanding of styles of music through a selection of focused listening and music-making activities. Through their knowledge of the musical elements, pupils will be able to apply stylistic features to performance, composition and music production activities. Following this, pupils will develop their skills by exploring two musical skills in detail from the choice of music performance, music composition or music production. They will record their progress and evaluate their work throughout the component. In addition to this, pupils will study the professional and commercial skills needed for the music industry. Lastly, pupils will be able to respond to music brief in their areas of strength, whether that be performing, composition or production. Pupils will begin this component by exploring the brief and investigating possible responses and ideas to meet the demands of the brief. Using relevant resources, skills and techniques they will then develop and refine musical material before presenting their final response. The ultimate aim of our curriculum, from Year 7 to Year 11, is for all students to be able to leave Gloucester Academy and be able to start a Music or Music Technology BTEC or A Level with an excellent foundation of Music knowledge.