



OVERVIEW

In Year 8, students will broaden their understanding of the interrelated musical dimensions through whole class ensemble work playing a range of different band instruments such as keyboards, guitars, bass guitar, drums, glockenspiels, percussion. They will encounter a range of genres, including: Classical, Romantic, Reggae, Mento, Ska, West African drumming, Blues and Jazz, RnB and Rock n Roll.

Aut

Tonality and Structure

- Develop instrumental skill alongside new knowledge acquisition.
- Study of 'set work' performance piece: 'In the Hall of the Mountain King' by Grieg
- Students learn and identify major, minor, chromatic and pentatonic scales, binary, ternary and variation form and performance directions.
- Students create a composition based on In the Hall of the Mountain King for a new ride at Alton Towers.

Assessment:

- Assessment – recorded performance of 'In the hall of the mountain King' on keys/uke/guitar
- Alton towers composition created using soundtrap.

Spr

Ensemble Musician

- Study of a variety of popular song styles, starting with music from Jamaica (mento, ska and reggae)
- Musical features/characteristics
- Learn about major, minor chords and their construction, the primary chords, root position (and inversions)
- Perform Three little birds, Blinding lights.

Assessment:

- Assessment – recorded performance of Three little birds 'skank' chords on soundtrap with actual song backing.
- Performance of 'Blinding lights' or other chosen performance piece

Sum

The Creative Musician

- Development of black music in America through listening, appraising and performance. Spirituals, Blues, Jazz styles
- Learn the 12 bar blues chord structure
- Dominant 7th chords
- Walking bass
- Blues scale
- Students analyse structure of a blues verse (and write their own lyrics)
- Build improvisation skills.

Assessment:

- Recording of 12 bar blues chords in 'swung' style.
- 'Stinky feet blues' melody and improvisation on soundtrap or as part of ensemble.

Useful resources for supporting your child at home:

[KS3 Music - BBC Bitesize](#)

[Yr 8 SCA Knowledge Organiser Booklet](#)

soundtrap.com

[Chrome Music Lab \(chromeexperiments.com\)](http://chromeexperiments.com)

Homework:

Weekly practice on Instruments.

Please see ASPIRE timetable for music clubs and practice sessions