



St George's School
Music Department
Year 8 Curriculum Map 2022

	Carousel Unit 1	Carousel Unit 2	Carousel Unit 3
THE BIG IDEAS & KNOWLEDGE <i>Overview of topics or key questions</i>	Beethoven Extended Melody Expression / Emotion Chord Inversions	Four Chord Song Chords / Major and Minor Bass Line Riff 4/4 Metre	West Side Story Hemiola Cross-Rhythm Compound Time Syncopation
SKILLS & STRATEGIES <i>Procedural knowledge, literacy and numeracy skills</i>	Keyboard skills project designed to engage Year 8 quickly and revive their prior work in Year 7. Students will choose from 2 popular and engaging Beethoven pieces (Ode to Joy or Fur Elise – each requiring melodic and chordal parts. Option to work as a duet or as a solo – performance to take place on acoustic piano. Emphasis on accuracy and dynamics.	Year 8 will be reintroduced to triad chords – major and minor. Students produce a backing track containing a chord sequence, bass line and percussive track. They will use a pentatonic scale to compose a short riff (repeating catchy idea) 4/4 in a bar (numeracy) revisited.	Students will apply their revitalised knowledge of chords and melody performance to a more complex time signature = 6/8. Using Garage-band DAW students will learn to play the melody to America by Leonard Bernstein - supported by a rhythmic chordal and percussive accompaniment.
FEEDBACK <i>Noteworthy tasks and assessments</i>	Beethoven pieces performed live on classroom acoustic pianos / own instruments. Feedback on individual assessment tracker as WWW/EBI. Peer assessments recorded by students with guided language on Assessment Task Sheet.	Four Chord Songs compositions uploaded to Google Classroom. Feedback on individual assessment tracker as WWW/EBI. Peer assessments recorded by students with guided language on Assessment Task Sheet.	West Side Story performed to peers who provide quality verbal feedback – plus written accounts on their assessment task sheets. Quality ensured through prompted language – reinforcing student literacy.
BREADTH <i>Opportunities, trips, wider reading, cultural capital</i>	Class contextual discussions: Emotional impact of deafness in later life on a composer – also struggles with poverty and family estrangement/abuse	Class contextual discussions: Important of structure – to music, literacy and well-being.	Class contextual discussions: Immigration, racial conflict and prejudice – represented in musical fusion.
	House Music: Individual performance opportunity using the grand piano in the Old Library	Encourage membership to Junior Choir, Boys Choir and Training Concert Band. Small ensembles specifically tailored to Year 7/8 members.	
KEY VOCABULARY <i>Important words and phrases</i>	Piano, forte, sustain pedal, dynamics, Romantic, Classical, Melody, Texture, broken chord and fluency.	Triad, inversion, texture, bass line, popular music, rock, guitar, drum-kit, riff, hook and 4/4	Compound Time, Off-beat, syncopation, cross-rhythm, strong pulse, melody, chords, hemiola and accent.